WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: A01H 1/06, 5/10, 1/00, C12N 15/00, (11) International Publication Number:

WO 97/21340

C07C 57/02, 57/03, 53/126

A1 (43) International Publication Date:

19 June 1997 (19.06.97)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US96/20090

(22) International Filing Date:

13 December 1996 (13.12.96)

(30) Priority Data:

08/572,027

14 December 1995 (14.12.95) US

(60) Parent Application or Grant

(63) Related by Continuation

Filed on

08/572,027 (CON). 14 December 1995 (14.12.95)

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CARGILL, INCORPORATED [US/US]; 15407 McGinty Road West, Wayzata, MN 55391 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DeBONTE, R., Lorin [US/US]; 3706 Rochdale Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (US). FAN, Zhegong [US/US]; 4429 Monte Carlo Place, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (US). LOH, H.-T., Willie [US/US]; 5236 West Lake Nokomis Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55417 (US).

(74) Agent: LUNDQUIST, C., Ronald; Fish & Richardson P.C., Suite 3300, 60 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (US).

(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: PLANTS HAVING MUTANT SEQUENCES THAT CONFER ALTERED FATTY ACID PROFILES

(57) Abstract

Seeds, plants and oils are provided having low FDA saturates; high oleic acid; low linoleic acid; high or low palmitic acid; low stearic acid; and low linoleic acid plus linolenic acid; and advantageous functional or nutritional properties. Plants are disclosed that contain a mutation in a delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene. Preferred plants are rapeseed and sunflower plants. Plants carrying such mutant genes have altered fatty acid composition in seeds. In one embodiment, a plant contains a mutation in a region having the conserved motif His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His, found in delta-12 and delta-15 fatty acid desaturases. A preferred motif has the sequence His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His. A preferred mutation in this motif has the amino acid sequence His-Lys-Cys-Gly-His. Nucleic acid fragments are disclosed that comprise a mutant delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene sequence.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AM	Armenia	GB	United Kingdom	MW	Malawi
AT	Austria	GE	Georgia	MX	Mexico
AU	Australia	GN	Guinea	NE	Niger
BB	Barbados	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BE	Belgium	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BF	Burkina Faso	IE	Ireland	NZ	New Zealand
BG	Bulgaria	IT	Italy	PL	Poland
BJ	Benin	JР	Japan	PT	Portugal
BR	Brazil	KE	Kenya	RO	Romania
BY	Belarus	KG	Kyrgystan	RU	Russian Federation
CA	Canada	KP	Democratic People's Republic	SD	Sudan
CF	Central African Republic		of Korea	SE	Sweden
CG	Congo	KR	Republic of Korea	SG	Singapore
СН	Switzerland	KZ	Kazakhstan	SI	Slovenia
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	LI	Liechtenstein	SK	Slovakia
CM	Cameroon	LK	Sri Lanka	SN	Senegal
CN	China	LR	Liberia	SZ	Swaziland
CS	Czechoslovakia	LT	Lithuania	TD	Chad
CZ	Czech Republic	LU	Luxembourg	TG	Togo
DE	Germany	LV	Latvia	TJ	Tajikistan
DK	Denmark	MC	Monaco	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
EE	Estonia	MD	Republic of Moldova	UA	Ukraine
ES	Spain	MG	Madagascar	UG	Uganda
FI	Finland	ML	Mali	US	United States of America
FR	France	MN	Mongolia	UZ	Uzbekistan
GA	Gabon	MR	Mauritania	VN	Viet Nam

- 1 -

PLANTS HAVING MUTANT SEQUENCES THAT CONFER ALTERED FATTY ACID PROFILES

Technical Field

This invention relates to Brassica seeds and plants having mutant sequences which confer altered fatty acid profiles on the seed oil. More particularly, the invention relates to mutant delta-12 and delta-15 fatty acid desaturase sequences in such plants which confer such profiles.

Background of the Invention

Diets high in saturated fats increase low density
lipoproteins (LDL) which mediate the deposition of
cholesterol on blood vessels. High plasma levels of
serum cholesterol are closely correlated with
atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease (Conner et
al., Coronary Heart Disease: Prevention, Complications,
and Treatment, pp. 43-64, 1985). By producing oilseed
Brassica varieties with reduced levels of individual and
total saturated fats in the seed oil, oil-based food
products which contain less saturated fats can be
produced. Such products will benefit public health by
reducing the incidence of atherosclerosis and coronary
heart disease.

The dietary effects of monounsaturated fats have also been shown to have dramatic effects on health.

Oleic acid, the only monounsaturated fat in most edible vegetable oils, lowers LDL as effectively as linoleic acid, but does not affect high density lipoproteins (HDL) levels (Mattson, F.H., J. Am. Diet. Assoc., 89:387-391, 1989; Mensink et al., New England J. Med., 321:436-441, 1989). Oleic acid is at least as effective in lowering plasma cholesterol as a diet low in fat and high in

- 2 -

carbohydrates (Grundy, S.M., New England J. Med., 314:745-748, 1986; Mensink et al., New England J. Med., 321:436-441, 1989). In fact, a high oleic acid diet is preferable to low fat, high carbohydrate diets for diabetics (Garg et al., New England J. Med., 319:829-834, 1988). Diets high in monounsaturated fats are also correlated with reduced systolic blood pressure (Williams et al., J. Am. Med. Assoc., 257:3251-3256, 1987). Epidemiological studies have demonstrated that the "Mediterranean" diet, which is high in fat and monounsaturates, is not associated with coronary heart disease (Keys, A., Circulation, 44(Suppl):1, 1970).

Many breeding studies have been conducted to improve the fatty acid profile of Brassica varieties.

Pleines and Freidt, Fat Sci. Technol., 90(5), 167-171

15 Pleines and Freidt, Fat Sci. Technol., 90(5), 167-171 (1988) describe plant lines with reduced $C_{18:3}$ levels (2.5-5.8%) combined with high oleic content (73-79%). Rakow and McGregor, J. Amer. Oil Chem. Soc., 50, 400-403 (Oct. 1973) discuss problems associated with selecting mutants 20 for linoleic and linolenic acids. In. Can. J. Plant Sci., 68, 509-511 (Apr. 1988) Stellar summer rape producing seed oil with 3% linolenic acid and 28% linoleic acid is disclosed. Roy and Tarr, Z. Pflanzenzuchtg, 95(3), 201-209 (1985) teaches transfer of 25 genes through an interspecific cross from Brassica juncea into Brassica napus resulting in a reconstituted line combining high linoleic with low linolenic acid content. Roy and Tarr, Plant Breeding, 98, 89-96 (1987) discuss prospects for development of B. napus L. having improved

linolenic and linolenic acid content. European Patent application 323,751 published July 12, 1989 discloses seeds and oils having greater than 79% oleic acid combined with less than 3.5% linolenic acid. Canvin, Can. J. Botany, 43, 63-69 (1965) discusses the effect of

- 3 -

temperature on the fatty acid composition of oils from several seed crops including rapeseed.

Mutations typically are induced with extremely high doses of radiation and/or chemical mutagens (Gaul, 5 H. Radiation Botany (1964) 4:155-232). High dose levels which exceed LD50, and typically reach LD90, led to maximum achievable mutation rates. In mutation breeding of Brassica varieties high levels of chemical mutagens alone or combined with radiation have induced a limited 10 number of fatty acid mutations (Rakow, G.Z. Pflanzenzuchtg (1973) 69:62-82). The low α -linolenic acid mutation derived from the Rakow mutation breedingprogram did not have direct commercial application because of low seed yield. The first commercial cultivar 15 using the low α -linolenic acid mutation derived in 1973 was released in 1988 as the variety Stellar (Scarth, R. et al., Can. J. Plant Sci. (1988) 68:509-511). was 20% lower yielding than commercial cultivars at the time of its release.

Canola-quality oilseed Brassica varieties with reduced levels of saturated fatty acids in the seed oil could be used to produce food products which promote cardiovascular health. Canola lines which are individually low in palmitic and stearic acid content or low in combination will reduce the levels of saturated fatty acids. Similarly, Brassica varieties with increased monounsaturate levels in the seed oil, and products derived from such oil, would improve lipid nutrition. Canola lines which are low in linoleic acid tend to have high oleic acid content, and can be used in the development of varieties having even higher oleic acid content.

Increased palmitic acid content provides a functional improvement in food applications. Oils high in palmitic acid content are particularly useful in the

- 4 -

formulation of margarines. Thus, there is a need for manufacturing purposes for oils high in palmitic acid content.

Decreased α-linolenic acid content provides a
5 functional improvement in food applications. Oils which
are low in linolenic acid have increased stability. The
rate of oxidation of lipid fatty acids increases with
higher levels of linolenic acid leading to off-flavors
and off-odors in foods. There is a need in the food
10 industry for oils low in alpha linolenic acid.

Delta-12 fatty acid desaturase (also known as oleic desaturase) is involved in the enzymatic conversion of oleic acid to linoleic acid. Delta-15 fatty acid desaturase (also known as linoleic acid desaturase) is 15 involved in the enzymatic conversion of linoleic acid to α -linolenic acid. A microsomal delta-12 desaturase has been cloned and characterized using T-DNA tagging. Okuley, et al., Plant Cell 6:147-158 (1994). nucleotide sequences of higher plant genes encoding 20 microsomal delta-12 fatty acid desaturase are described in Lightner et al., WO94/11516. Sequences of higher plant genes encoding microsomal and plastid delta-15 fatty acid desaturases are disclosed in Yadav, N., et al., Plant Physiol., 103:467-476 (1993), WO 93/11245 and 25 Arondel, V. et al., Science, 258:1353-1355 (1992). However, there are no teachings that disclose mutations in delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase coding sequences from plants. Furthermore, no methods have been described for developing plant lines that contain delta-30 12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene sequence mutations effective for altering the fatty acid

composition of seeds.

- 5 -

Summary of the Invention

The present invention comprises canola seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seed, said seeds having a maximum content of FDA saturates of 5 about 5% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said saturates content has been stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds and canola oil 10 having a maximum erucic acid content of about 2%, based upon total extractable oil, are additional aspects of this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having an FDA saturates content of from about 4.2% to about 5.0% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises Brassica seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a minimum oleic acid content of about 71% based upon total extractable oil and belonging 20 to a line in which said oleic acid content has been stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. A further aspect of this invention is such high oleic acid seeds additionally having a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based 25 upon total extractable oil. Progeny of said seeds; and Brassica oil having 1) a minimum oleic acid content of about 71% or 2) a minimum oleic acid content of about 71% and a maximum erucic content of about 2% are also included in this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant 30 lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having an oleic acid content of from about 71.2% to about 78.3% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises canola seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a maximum linoleic acid content

- 6 -

of about 14% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds and canola oil having a maximum linoleic acid content of about 14% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2%, are additional aspects of this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a linoleic acid content of from about 8.4% to about 9.4% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises Brassica seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a maximum palmitic acid content of about 3.5% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based on total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds and canola having a maximum palmitic acid content of about 3.5% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2%, are additional aspects of this invention. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a palmitic acid content of from about 2.7% to about 3.1% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises Brassica seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a minimum palmitic acid content of about 9.0% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. A further aspect of this invention is such high palmitic acid seeds additionally having a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% based upon total extractable oil. Progeny of

- 7 -

said seeds; and *Brassica* oil having 1) a minimum palmitic acid content of about 9.0%, or 2) a minimum palmitic acid content of about 9.0% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2% are also included in this invention.

5 Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a palmitic acid content of from about 9.1% to about 11.7% based upon total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises Brassica

10 seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a maximum stearic acid content of about 1.1% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed

15 belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds have a canola oil having a maximum stearic acid content of about 1.1% and maximum erucic acid content of about 2%. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds having a palmitic acid content of from about 0.8% to about 1.1% based on total extractable oil.

The present invention further comprises Brassica seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds, said seeds having a sum of linoleic acid content and linolenic acid content of a maximum of about 14% based upon total extractable oil and belonging to a line in which said acid content is stabilized for both the generation to which the seed belongs and its parent generation. Progeny of said seeds have a canola oil having a sum of linoleic acid content and linolenic acid content of a maximum of about 14% and a maximum erucic acid content of about 2%. Preferred are seeds, plant lines producing seeds, and plants producing seeds having a sum of linoleic acid content and linolenic acid content

- 8 -

of from about 11.8% to about 12.5% based on total extractable oil.

The invention further comprises Brassicaceae or Helianthus seeds, plants and plant lines having at least 5 one mutation that controls the levels of unsaturated fatty acids in plants. One embodiment of the invention is an isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a mutant delta-12 fatty acid desaturase conferring altered fatty composition in seeds 10 when the fragment is present in a plant. A preferred sequence comprises a mutant sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:3. Another embodiment of the invention is an isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a mutant delta-15 fatty acid desaturase. 15 plant in this embodiment may be soybean, oilseed Brassica species, sunflower, castor bean or corn. The mutant sequence may be derived from, for example, a Brassica napus, Brassica rapa, Brassica juncea or Helianthus delta-12 or delta-15 gene.

Another embodiment of the invention involves a method of producing a Brassicaceae or Helianthus plant line comprising the steps of: (a) inducing mutagenesis in cells of a starting variety of a Brassicaceae or Helianthus species; (b) obtaining progeny plants from the mutagenized cells; (c) identifying progeny plants that contain a mutation in a delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene; and (d) producing a plant line by selfing.

Yet another embodiment of the invention involves a

30 method of producing plant lines containing altered levels
of unsaturated fatty acids comprising: (a) crossing a
first plant with a second plant having a mutant delta-12
or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase; (b) obtaining seeds
from the cross of step (a); (c) growing fertile plants

35 from such seeds; (d) obtaining progeny seed the plants of

step (c); and (e) identifying those seeds among the progeny that have altered fatty acid composition. Suitable plants are soybean, rapeseed, sunflower, safflower, castor bean and corn. Preferred plants are rapeseed and sunflower.

The invention is also embodied in vegetable oil obtained from plants disclosed herein, which vegetable oil has an altered fatty acid composition.

Brief Description of the Figures

Figure 1 is a histogram showing the frequency distribution of seed oil oleic acid $(C_{18:1})$ content in a segregating population of a Q508 X Westar cross. The bar labeled WSGA 1A represents the $C_{18:1}$ content of the Westar parent. The bar labeled Q508 represents the $C_{18:1}$ content of the Q508 parent.

Description of the Preferred Embodiments

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration defines saturated fatty acids as the sum of lauric $(C_{12:0})$, myristic $(C_{14:0})$, palmitic $(C_{16:0})$ and stearic $(C_{18:0})$ acids. 20 The term "FDA saturates" as used herein means this abovedefined sum. Unless total saturate content is specified, the saturated fatty acid values expressed here include only "FDA saturates."

All percent fatty acids herein are percent by

25 weight of the oil of which the fatty acid is a component.

As used herein, a "line" is a group of plants that display little or no genetic variation between individuals for at least one trait. Such lines may be created by several generations of self-pollination and

30 selection, or vegetative propagation from a single parent using tissue or cell culture techniques. As used herein, the term "variety" refers to a line which is used for commercial production.

- 10 -

The term "mutagenesis" refers to the use of a mutagenic agent to induce random genetic mutations within a population of individuals. The treated population, or a subsequent generation of that population, is then 5 screened for usable trait(s) that result from the mutations. A "population" is any group of individuals that share a common gene pool. As used herein " M_0 " is untreated seed. As used herein, $"M_1"$ is the seed (and resulting plants) exposed to a mutagenic agent, while ${}^{\text{m}}M_2{}^{\text{m}}$ 10 is the progeny (seeds and plants) of self-pollinated \mathbf{M}_1 plants, " M_3 " is the progeny of self-pollinated M_2 plants, and "M4" is the progeny of self-pollinated M3 plants. " M_5 " is the progeny of self-pollinated M_4 plants. ${}^{"}M_{7}{}^{"}$, etc. are each the progeny of self-pollinated plants 15 of the previous generation. The term "selfed" as used herein means self-pollinated.

"Stability" or "stable" as used herein means that with respect to a given fatty acid component, the component is maintained from generation to generation for at least two generations and preferably at least three generations at substantially the same level, e.g., preferably ±5%. The method of invention is capable of creating lines with improved fatty acid compositions stable up to ±5% from generation to generation. The above stability may be affected by temperature, location, stress and time of planting. Thus, comparison of fatty acid profiles should be made from seeds produced under similar growing conditions. Stability may be measured based on knowledge of prior generation.

Intensive breeding has produced Brassica plants whose seed oil contains less than 2% erucic acid. The same varieties have also been bred so that the defatted meal contains less than 30 μ mol glucosinolates/gram. "Canola" as used herein refers to plant variety seed or

PCT/US96/20090 WO 97/21340

- 11 -

oil which contains less than 2% erucic acid $(C_{22:1})$, and meal with less than 30 μ mol glucosinolates/gram.

Applicants have discovered plants with mutations in a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene. Such plants 5 have useful alterations in the fatty acid compositions of the seed oil. Such mutations confer, for example, an elevated oleic acid content, a decreased, stabilized linoleic acid content, or both elevated oleic acid and decreased, stabilized linoleic acid content.

Applicants have further discovered plants with mutations in a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene. Such plants have useful alterations in the fatty acid composition of the seed oil, e.g., a decreased, stabilized level of α -linolenic acid.

10

25

Applicants have further discovered isolated 15 nucleic acid fragments comprising sequences that carry mutations within the coding sequence of delta-12 or delta-15 desaturases. The mutations confer desirable alterations in fatty acid levels in the seed oil of 20 plants carrying such mutations. Delta-12 fatty acid desaturase is also known as omega-6 fatty acid desaturase and is sometimes referred to herein as 12-DES. Delta-15 fatty acid desaturase is also known on omega-3 fatty acid desaturase and is sometimes referred to herein as 15-DES.

A nucleic acid fragment of the invention contains a mutation in a microsomal delta-12 fatty acid desaturase coding sequence or in a microsomal delta-15 fatty acid desaturase coding sequence. Such a mutation renders the resulting desaturase gene product non-functional in 30 plants, relative to the function of the gene product encoded by the wild-type sequence. The non-functionality of the 12-DES gene product can be inferred from the decreased level of reaction product (linoleic acid) and increased level of substrate (oleic acid) in plant 35 tissues expressing the mutant sequence, compared to the

- 12 -

corresponding levels in plant tissues expressing the wild-type sequence. The non-functionality of the 15-DES gene product can be inferred from the decreased level of reaction product (α-linolenic acid) and the increased level of substrate (linoleic acid) in plant tissues expressing the mutant sequence, compared to the corresponding levels in plant tissues expressing the wild-type sequence.

A nucleic acid fragment of the invention may

comprise a portion of the coding sequence, e.g., at least about 10 nucleotides, provided that the fragment contains at least one mutation in the coding sequence. The length of a desired fragment depends upon the purpose for which the fragment will be used, e.g., PCR primer, site-

15 directed mutagenesis and the like. In one embodiment, a nucleic acid fragment of the invention comprises the full length coding sequence of a mutant delta-12 or mutant delta-15 fatty acid desaturase.

A mutation in a nucleic acid fragment of the
invention may be in any portion of the coding sequence
that renders the resulting gene product non-functional.
Suitable types of mutations include, without limitation,
insertions of nucleotides, deletions of nucleotides, or
transitions and transversions in the wild-type coding
sequence. Such mutations result in insertions of one or
more amino acids, deletions of one or more amino acids,
and non-conservative amino acid substitutions in the
corresponding gene product. In some embodiments, the
sequence of a nucleic acid fragment may comprise more
than one mutation or more than one type of mutation.

Insertion or deletion of amino acids in a coding sequence may, for example, disrupt the conformation of essential alpha-helical or beta-pleated sheet regions of the resulting gene product. Amino acid insertions or deletions may also disrupt binding or catalytic sites

- 13 -

important for gene product activity. It is known in the art that the insertion or deletion of a larger number of contiguous amino acids is more likely to render the gene product non-functional, compared to a smaller number of inserted or deleted amino acids.

Non-conservative amino acid substitutions may replace an amino acid of one class with an amino acid of a different class. Non-conservative substitutions may make a substantial change in the charge or hydrophobicity of the gene product. Non-conservative amino acid substitutions may also make a substantial change in the bulk of the residue side chain, e.g., substituting an alanyl residue for a isoleucyl residue.

Examples of non-conservative substitutions include

15 the substitution of a basic amino acid for a non-polar
amino acid, or a polar amino acid for an acidic amino
acid. Because there are only 20 amino acids encoded in a
gene, substitutions that result in a non-functional gene
product may be determined by routine experimentation,

20 incorporating amino acids of a different class in the
region of the gene product targeted for mutation.

Preferred mutations are in a region of the nucleic acid having an amino acid sequence motif that is conserved among delta-12 fatty acid desaturases or delta-15 fatty acid desaturases, such as a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His motif (Tables 1-3). An example of a suitable region has a conserved HECGH motif that is found, for example, in nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 105 to 109 of the Arabidopsis and Brassica delta-12 desaturase

30 sequences, in nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 101 to 105 of the soybean delta-12 desaturase sequence and in nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 111 to 115 of the maize delta-12 desaturase sequence. See e.g., WO 94/115116; Okuley et al., Plant Cell 6:147-158 (1994).

- 14 -

described in Alberts, B. et al., Molecular Biology of the Cell, 3rd edition, Garland Publishing, New York, 1994.

Amino acids flanking this motif are also highly conserved among delta-12 and delta-15 desaturases and are also suitable candidates for mutations in fragments of the invention. An illustrative embodiment of a mutation in a nucleic acid fragment of the invention is a Glu to Lys substitution in the HECGH motif of a Brassica microsomal delta-12 desaturase sequence, either the D form or the F form. This mutation results in the sequence HECGH being changed to HKCGH as seen by comparing SEQ ID NO:2 (wild-type D form) to SEQ ID NO:4 (mutant D form).

A similar motif may be found at amino acids 101 to 105 of the Arabidopsis microsomal delta-15 fatty acid desaturase, as well as in the corresponding rape and soybean desaturases (Table 5). See, e.g., WO 93/11245; Arondel, V. et al., Science, 258:1153-1155 (1992); Yadav, N. et al., Plant Physiol., 103:467-476 (1993). Plastid delta-15 fatty acids have a similar motif (Table 5).

Among the types of mutations in an HECGH motif
that render the resulting gene product non-functional are
non-conservative substitutions. An illustrative example
of a non-conservative substitution is substitution of a
glycine residue for either the first or second histidine.

25 Such a substitution replaces a polar residue (histidine)
with a non-polar residue (glycine). Another type of
mutation that renders the resulting gene product nonfunctional is an insertion mutation, e.g., insertion of a
glycine between the cystine and glutamic acid residues in
30 the HECGH motif.

Other regions having suitable conserved amino acid motifs include the HRRHH motif shown in Table 2, the HRTHH motif shown in Table 6 and the HVAHH motif shown in Table 3. See, e.g., WO 94/115116; Hitz, W. et al., Plant

Physiol., 105:635-641 (1994); Okuley, J., et al., supra; and Yadav, N. et al., supra.

Another region suitable for a mutation in a delta12 desaturase sequence contains the motif KYLNNP at
5 nucleotides corresponding to amino acids 171 to 175 of
the Brassica desaturase sequence. An illustrative
example of a mutation is this region is a Leu to His
substitution, resulting in the amino acid sequence (Table
4) KYHNN (Compare wild-type SEQ ID NO:6 to mutant SEQ ID
10 NO:8).

TABLE 1

Alignment of Amino Acid Sequences from Microsomal

Delta-12 Fatty Acid Desaturases

	Species	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
15	Arabidopsis thaliana Glycine max Zea mays	100-129 96-125 106-135	IWVIAHECGH HAFSDYOWLD DTVGLIFHSF VWVIAHECGH HAFSKYOWVD DVVGLTLHST
20	Ricinus communis ^a Brassica napus D Brassica napus F	1- 29 100-128 100-128	VWVIAHECGH HAFSDYSLLD DVVGLVLHSS WVMAHDCGH HAFSDYQLLD DVVGLILHSC VWVIAHECGH HAFSDYQWLD DTVGLIFHS VWVIAHECGH HAFSDYQWLD DTVGLIFHS

a from plasmid pRF2-1C

TABLE 2 Alignment of Amino Acid Sequences from Microsomal Delta-12 Fatty Acid Desaturases

25	Species	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
	Arabidopsis thaliana	130-158	LLVPYFSWKY SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
	Glycine max	126-154	LLVPYFSWKI SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
	Zea mays	136-164	LMVPYFSWKY SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
	Ricinus communis ^a	30- 58	LLVPYFSWKH SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
30	Brassica napus D	130-158	LLVPYFSWKY SHRSHHSNTG SLERDEVFV
	Brassica napus F	130-158	LLVPYFSWKY SHRRHHSNTG SLERDEVFV

from plasmid pRF2-1C

- 16 -

TABLE 3

Alignment of Amino Acid Sequences from Microsomal . <u>Delta-12 Fatty Acid Desaturases</u>

	Species	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
5	Arabidopsis thaliana Glycine max Zea mays Ricinus communis* Brassica napus D Brassica napus F	298-333 294-329 305-340 198-224 299-334 299-334	DRDYGILNKV FHNITDTHVA HHLFSTMPHY NAMEAT DRDYGILNKV FHNITDTHVA HHLFSTMPHY HAMEAT DRDYGILNKV FHNITDTHVA HHLFSTMPHY HAMEAT DRDYGILNKV FHNITDTHVA HHPFSTMPHY HAMEAT DRDYGILNKV FHNITDTHVA HHLFSTMPHY HAMEAT
1	from plasmid pRF	2-1C	

TABLE 4

Alignment of Conserved Amino Acids from Microsomal Delta-12 Fatty Acid Desaturases

15	Species	<u>Position</u>	Amino Acid Sequence
20	Arabidopsis thaliana Glycine max Zea mays Ricinus communis ^a Brassica napus D Brassica napus F	165-180 161-176 172-187 65- 80 165-180 165-180	IKWYGKYLNN PLGRIM VAWFSLYLNN PLGRAV PWYTPYVYNN PVGRVV IRWYSKYLNN PPGRIM IKWYGKYLNN PLGRTV IKWYGKYLNN PLGRTV

a from plasmid pRF2-1C

TABLE 5

Alignment of Conserved Amino Acids from Plastid and Microsomal <u>Delta-15 Fatty Acid Desaturases</u>

	<u>Species</u>	Position	Amino Acid Sequence
30	Arabidopsis thaliana ^a Brassica napus ^a Glycine max ^a Arabidopsis thaliana Brassica napus Glycine max	156-177 114-135 164-185 94-115 87-109 93-114	WALFVLGHD CGHGSFSNDP KLN WALFVLGHD CGHGSFSNDS KLN WALFVLGHD CGHGSFSDIP LLN WALFVLGHD CGHGSFSNDP RLN WALFVLGHD CGHGSFSNDP RLN WALFVLGHD CGHGSFSDSP PLN

a Plastid sequences

25

- 17 -

TABLE 6

Alignment of Conserved Amino Acids from Plastid and Microsomal <u>Delta-15 Fatty Acid Desaturases</u>

	Species Positi	<u>on</u>	Amino Acid Sequence					
5	A. thalianaª	188-216	ILVPYHGWRI	SHRTHHQNHG	HVENDESWH			
	B. napus ^a	146-174	ILVPYHGWRI	SHRTHHONHG	HVENDESWH			
	Glycine max ^a	196-224	ILVPYHGWRI	SHRTHHQHHG	HAENDESWH			
	A. thaliana	126-154	ILVPYHGWRI	SHRTHHONHG	HVENDESWV			
	Brassica napus	117-145		SHRTHHONHG				
10	Glycine max	125-153	ILVPYHGWRI	SHRTHHONHG	HIEKDESWV			

a Plastid sequences

The conservation of amino acid motifs and their relative positions indicates that regions of a delta-12 or delta-15 fatty acid desaturase that can be mutated in one species to generate a non-functional desaturase can be mutated in the corresponding region from other species to generate a non-functional 12-DES or 15-DES gene product in that species.

Mutations in any of the regions of Tables 1-6 are specifically included within the scope of the invention, provided that such mutation (or mutations) renders the resulting desaturase gene product non-functional, as discussed hereinabove.

A nucleic acid fragment containing a mutant sequence can be generated by techniques known to the skilled artisan. Such techniques include, without limitation, site-directed mutagenesis of wild-type sequences and direct synthesis using automated DNA synthesizers.

A nucleic acid fragment containing a mutant sequence can also be generated by mutagenesis of plant seeds or regenerable plant tissue by, e.g., ethyl methane sulfonate, X-rays or other mutagens. With mutagenesis, mutant plants having the desired fatty acid phenotype in seeds are identified by known techniques and a nucleic acid fragment containing the desired mutation is isolated from genomic DNA or RNA of the mutant line. The site of

- 18 -

the specific mutation is then determined by sequencing the coding region of the 12-DES or 15-DES gene.

Alternatively, labeled nucleic acid probes that are specific for desired mutational events can be used to rapidly screen a mutagenized population.

Seeds of Westar, a Canadian (Brassica napus) spring canola variety, were subjected to chemical mutagenesis. Mutagenized seeds were planted in the greenhouse and the plants were self-pollinated. The 10 progeny plants were individually analyzed for fatty acid composition, and regrown either in the greenhouse or in the field. After four successive generations of self-pollinations, followed by chemical analysis of the seed oil at each cycle, several lines were shown to carry stably inherited mutations in specific fatty acid components, including reduced palmitic acid (C_{16:0}), increased palmitic acid, reduced stearic acid (C_{18:0}), increased oleic acid (C_{18:1}), reduced linoleic acid (C_{18:2}) and reduced linolenic acid (C_{18:3}), in the seed oil.

The general experimental scheme for developing lines with stable fatty acid mutations is shown in Scheme I hereinafter.

- 19 -

SCHEME I

```
Westar (Mo)
                   <---- EMS Treatment
               M_1
 5
                   <---- Greenhouse grow out
                   <---- Self-pollination
               M_2
10
                  <---- Nursery grow out
                  <---- Self-pollination
                  <---- Chemical analysis
15
                  <---- Select mutants based on
   statistical
                              analysis of control population
                   <----- Grow out select mutants in
   greenhouse
20
                   <----- Self-pollination
               M_{4}
                  <---- Chemical analysis
                  <---- Select mutants based on
25 statistical
                              analysis of control population
                  <----- Grow out select mutants in nursery
                  <---- Self-pollination
30
               Mς
                  <---- Chemical analysis
                  <---- Confirm altered fatty acid
                  <----- Composition in selected lines
35
   STABLE FATTY ACID MUTANTS
```

Westar seeds (M_0) were mutagenized with ethylmethanesulfonate (EMS). Westar is a registered Canadian spring variety with canola quality. The fatty acid composition of field-grown Westar, 3.9% $C_{16:0}$, 1.9% $C_{18:0}$, 67.5% $C_{18:1}$, 17.6% $C_{18:2}$, 7.4% $C_{18:3}$, <2% $C20:1 + C_{22:1}$, has remained stable under commercial production, with < \pm 10% deviation, since 1982. The disclosed method may be applied to all oilseed Brassica species, and to both Spring and Winter maturing types within each species. Physical mutagens, including but not limited to X-rays,

- 20 -

UV rays, and other physical treatments which cause chromosome damage, and other chemical mutagens, including but not limited to ethidium bromide, nitrosoguanidine, diepoxybutane etc. may also be used to induce mutations.

The mutagenesis treatment may also be applied to other stages of plant development, including but not limited to cell cultures, embryos, microspores and shoot apices. The M₁ seeds were planted in the greenhouse and M₁ plants were individually self-pollinated.

10 M₂ seed was harvested from the greenhouse and planted in the field in a plant-to-row design. Each plot contained six rows, and five M₂ lines were planted in each plot. Every other plot contained a row of non-mutagenized Westar as a control. Based on gas
15 chromatographic analysis of M₂ seed, those lines which had altered fatty acid composition were self-pollinated and individually harvested.

M₃ seeds were evaluated for mutations on the basis of a Z-distribution. An extremely stringent 1 in 10,000 rejection rate was employed to establish statistical thresholds to distinguish mutation events from existing variation. Mean and standard deviation values were determined from the non-mutagenized Westar control population in the field. The upper and lower statistical thresholds for each fatty acid were determined from the mean value of the population ± the standard deviation, multiplied by the Z-distribution. Based on a population size of 10,000, the confidence interval is 99.99%.

Seeds (M₃) from those M₂ lines which exceeded
30 either the upper or lower statistical thresholds were replanted in the greenhouse and self-pollinated. This planting also included Westar controls. The M₄ seed was re-analyzed using new statistical thresholds established with a new control population. Those M₄ lines which
35 exceeded the new statistical thresholds for selected

- 21 -

fatty acid compositions were advanced to the nursery. Following self-pollination, M₅ seed from the field were re-analyzed once again for fatty acid composition. Those lines which remained stable for the selected fatty acids were considered stable mutations.

"Stable mutations" as used herein are defined as M₅ or more advanced lines which maintain a selected altered fatty acid profile for a minimum of three generations, including a minimum of two generations under field conditions, and exceeding established statistical thresholds for a minimum of two generations, as determined by gas chromatographic analysis of a minimum of 10 randomly selected seeds bulked together. Alternatively, stability may be measured in the same way by comparing to subsequent generations. In subsequent generations, stability is defined as having similar fatty acid profiles in the seed as that of the prior or subsequent generation when grown under substantially similar conditions.

The amount of variability for fatty acid content in a seed population is quite significant when single seeds are analyzed. Randomly selected single seeds and a ten seed bulk sample of a commercial variety were compared. Significant variation among the single seeds was detected (Table A). The half-seed technique (Downey, R.K. and B.L. Harvey, Can. J. Plant Sci., 43:271 [1963]) in which one cotyledon of the germinating seed is analyzed for fatty acid composition and the remaining embryo grown into a plant has been very useful to plant breeding work to select individuals in a population for further generation analysis. The large variation seen in the single seed analysis (Table A) is reflected in the half-seed technique.

- 22 -

TABLE A
Single Seed Analysis for Fatty Acid Composition¹

	SAMPLE	16:0	16:1	_18:0	18:1	18:2	18:3	20:0	20:1	22.0	
	Bulk	3.2	0.4	1.8	20.7		9.8	0.8	11.2	22:0 0.4	22:1
5	1	2.8	0.2	1.1	14.6	14.6	11.1	0.8	9.8	0.7	32.2
	2	3.3	0.2	1.3	13.1	14.4	11.7	0.9	10.5		38.2
	3	3.0		1.2	12.7	15.3	10.6	0.8	7.3	0.7	37.0
	4	2.8	0.2	1.1	16.7	13.2	9.1	0.8	11.2	0.7	43.2
	5	3.0		1.8	15.2	13.3	8.4	1.3	8.7	0.4	38.9
10	6	3.1		1.3	14.4	14.6	10.3	1.0	10.9	0.9	42.3
	7	2.6		1.2	15.7	13.8	9.9	0.9	12.2	0.8	39.3
	8	3.1		1.1	16.2	13.4	10.6	0.6	9.2	0.5	37.0
	9	2.7	0.1	1.0	13.5	11.2	11.3	0.8	6.2	0.7	41.4
	10	3.4	0.2	1.4	13.9	17.5	10.8	1.1	10.0	0.7	46.9 36.2
15	11	2.8	0.2	1.2	12.7	12.9	10.3	1.0	7.9	0.9	43.3
	12	2.3	0.1	1.6	20.7	14.8	6.5	1.1	12.5	0.8	34.5
	13	2.6	0.2	1.3	21.0	11.4	7.6	1.0	11.6	0.6	34.5
	14	2.6	0.1	1.2	14.7	13.2	9.4	0.9	10.1	0.8	40.8
	15	2.9	0.2	1.4	16.6	15.1	11.2	0.7	9.1	0.3	36.1
20	16	3.0	0.2	1.1	12.4	13.7	10.4	0.9	8.7	0.8	42.7
	17	2.9	0.1	1.1	21.1	12.3	7.1	0.8	12.4	0.5	36.8
	18	3.1	0.1	1.2	13.7	13.1	10.4	1.0	8.8	0.7	41.6
	19	2.7	0.1	1.0	11.1	13.4	11.7	0.8	7.9	0.8	43.5
	_20	2.3	0.2	0.2	18.2	13.9	8.2	0.9	10.3	0.8	38.2
25	Average	2.8	0.2	1.2	15.4	13.8	9.8	0.9	9.8	0.7	39.7
	Minimum	2.3	0.1	0.2	11.1	11.2	6.5	0.6	6.2	0.3	34.5
	Maximum	3.4	0.2	1.8	21.1	17.5	11.7	1.3	12.5	0.9	46.9
	Range	1.1	0.1	1.6	9.9	6.3	5.3	0.7	6.4		12.4
	Value	s ex	pres	ssed	as	perc	ent	of to		oil	
						-				~	

Plant breeders using the half-seed technique have found it unreliable in selecting stable genetically controlled fatty acid mutations (Stefanson, B.R., In; High and Low Erucic Acid Rapeseed Oils, Ed. N.T. Kenthies, Academic Press, Inc., Canada (1983) pp. 145-159). Although valuable in selecting individuals from a population, the selected traits are not always transmitted to subsequent generations (Rakow, G. and McGregor, D.I., J. Amer. Oil Chem. Soc. (1973) 50:400-403. To determine the genetic stability of the selected plants several self-pollinated generations are required (Robelen, G. In: Biotechnology for the Oils and Fats Industry, Ed. C. Ratledge, P. Dawson and J. Rattray,

- 23 -

American Oil Chemists Society (1984) pp. 97-105) with chemical analysis of a bulk seed sample.

Mutation breeding has traditionally produced plants carrying, in addition to the trait of interest,

5 multiple, deleterious traits, e.g., reduced plant vigor and reduced fertility. Such traits may indirectly affect fatty acid composition, producing an unstable mutation; and/or reduce yield, thereby reducing the commercial utility of the invention. To eliminate the occurrence of deleterious mutations and reduce the load of mutations carried by the plant a low mutagen dose was used in the seed treatments to create an LD30 population. This allowed for the rapid selection of single gene mutations for fatty acid traits in agronomic backgrounds which produce acceptable yields.

Other than changes in the fatty acid composition of the seed oil, the mutant lines described here have normal plant phenotype when grown under field conditions, and are commercially useful. "Commercial utility" is defined as having a yield, as measured by total pounds of seed or oil produced per acre, within 15% of the average yield of the starting (Mo) canola variety grown in the same region. To be commercially useful, plant vigor and high fertility are such that the crop can be produced in this yield by farmers using conventional farming equipment, and the oil with altered fatty acid composition can be extracted using conventional crushing and extraction equipment.

The seeds of several different fatty acid lines
30 have been deposited with the American Type Culture
Collection and have the following accession numbers.

- 24 -

	<u>Line</u> A129.5 A133.1	Accession No. 40811 40812	Deposit Date May 25, 1990
5	A144.1 A200.7	40813 40816	May 25, 1990 May 25, 1990 May 31, 1990
	M3032.1 M3094.4 M3052.6	75021 75023	June 7, 1991 June 7, 1991
10	M3007.4 M3062.8	75024 75022 75025	June 7, 1991 June 7, 1991 June 7, 1991
	M3028.10 IMC130	75026 75446	June 7, 1991 June 7, 1991 April 16, 1993

In some plant species or varieties more than one form of endogenous microsomal delta-12 desaturase may be found. In amphidiploids, each form may be derived from one of the parent genomes making up the species under consideration. Plants with mutations in both forms have a fatty acid profile that differs from plants with a mutation in only one form. An example of such a plant is Brassica napus line Q508, a doubly-mutagenized line containing a mutant D-form of delta-12 desaturase (SEQ ID NO:1) and a mutant F-form of delta-12 desaturase (SEQ ID NO:5).

Preferred host or recipient organisms for

25 introduction of a nucleic acid fragment of the invention are the oil-producing species, such as soybean (Glycine max), rapeseed (e.g., Brassica napus, B. rapa and B. juncea), sunflower (Helianthus annus), castor bean (Ricinus communis), corn (Zea mays), and safflower

30 (Carthamus tinctorius).

Plants according to the invention preferably contain an altered fatty acid profile. For example, oil obtained from seeds of such plants may have from about 69 to about 90% oleic acid, based on the total fatty acid composition of the seed. Such oil preferably has from about 74 to about 90% oleic acid, more preferably from about 80 to about 90% oleic acid. In some embodiments, oil obtained from seeds produced by plants of the

invention may have from about 2.0% to about 5.0%
saturated fatty acids, based on total fatty acid
composition of the seeds. In some embodiments, oil
obtained from seeds of the invention may have from about
5 1.0% to about 14.0% linoleic acid, or from about 0.5% to
about 10.0% α-linolenic acid.

In one embodiment of the claimed invention, a plant contains both a 12-DES mutation and a 15-DES mutation. Such plants can have a fatty acid composition comprising very high oleic acid and very low alphalinolenic acid levels. Mutations in 12-DES and 15-DES may be combined in a plant by making a genetic cross between 12-DES and 15-DES single mutant lines. A plant having a mutation in delta-12 fatty acid desaturase is crossed or mated with a second plant having a mutation in delta-15 fatty acid desaturase. Seeds produced from the cross are planted and the resulting plants are selfed in order to obtain progeny seeds. These progeny seeds are then screened in order to identify those seeds carrying both mutant genes.

Alternatively, a line possessing either a 12-DES or a 15-DES mutation can be subjected to mutagenesis to generate a plant or plant line having mutations in both 12-DES and 15-DES. For example, the IMC 129 line has a 25 mutation in the coding region (Glu₁₀₆ to Lys₁₀₆) of the D form of the microsomal delta-12 desaturase structural gene. Cells (e.g., seeds) of this line can be mutagenized to induce a mutation in a 15-DES gene, resulting in a plant or plant line carrying a mutation in a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene and a mutation in a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene.

Progeny includes descendants of a particular plant or plant line, e.g., seeds developed on an instant plant. Progeny of an instant plant include seeds formed on F_1

- 26 -

 F_2 , F_3 , and subsequent generation plants, or seeds formed on BC_1 , BC_2 , BC_3 and subsequent generation plants.

Those seeds having an altered fatty acid composition may be identified by techniques known to the skilled artisan, e.g., gas-liquid chromatography (GLC) analysis of a bulked seed sample or of a single half-seed. Half-seed analysis is well known in the art to be useful because the viability of the embryo is maintained and thus those seeds having a desired fatty acid profile may be planted to from the next generation. However, half-seed analysis is also known to be an inaccurate representation of genotype of the seed being analyzed. Bulk seed analysis typically yields a more accurate representation of the fatty acid profile of a given genotype.

The nucleic acid fragments of the invention can be used as markers in plant genetic mapping and plant breeding programs. Such markers may include restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP), random amplification polymorphism detection (RAPD), polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or self-sustained sequence replication (3SR) markers, for example. Marker-assisted breeding techniques may be used to identify and follow a desired fatty acid composition during the breeding process.

25 Marker-assisted breeding techniques may be used in addition to, or as an alternative to, other sorts of identification techniques. An example of marker-assisted breeding is the use of PCR primers that specifically amplify a sequence containing a desired mutation in 12-30 DES or 15-DES.

Methods according to the invention are useful in that the resulting plants and plant lines have desirable seed fatty acid compositions as well as superior agronomic properties compared to known lines having altered seed fatty acid composition. Superior agronomic

- 27 -

characteristics include, for example, increased seed germination percentage, increased seedling vigor, increased resistance to seedling fungal diseases (damping off, root rot and the like), increased yield, and improved standability.

While the invention is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, certain specific embodiments thereof are described in the general methods and examples set forth below. For example the invention 10 may be applied to all Brassica species, including B. rapa, B. juncea, and B. hirta, to produce substantially similar results. It should be understood, however, that these examples are not intended to limit the invention to the particular forms disclosed but, instead the invention 15 is to cover all modifications, equivalents and alternatives falling within the scope of the invention. This includes the use of somaclonal variation; physical or chemical mutagenesis of plant parts; anther, microspore or ovary culture followed by chromosome 20 doubling; or self- or cross-pollination to transmit the fatty acid trait, alone or in combination with other traits, to develop new Brassica lines.

EXAMPLE 1

Selection of Low FDA Saturates

Prior to mutagenesis, 30,000 seeds of *B. napus* cv. Westar seeds were preimbibed in 300-seed lots for two hours on wet filter paper to soften the seed coat. The preimbibed seeds were placed in 80 mM ethylmethanesulfonate (EMS) for four hours. Following mutagenesis, the seeds were rinsed three times in distilled water. The seeds were sown in 48-well flats containing Pro-Mix. Sixty-eight percent of the mutagenized seed germinated. The plants were maintained at 25°C/15°C, 14/10 hr day/night conditions in the

- 28 -

greenhouse. At flowering, each plant was individually self-pollinated.

M₂ seed from individual plants were individually catalogued and stored, approximately 15,000 M₂ lines was planted in a summer nursery in Carman, Manitoba. The seed from each selfed plant were planted in 3-meter rows with 6-inch row spacing. Westar was planted as the check variety. Selected lines in the field were selfed by bagging the main raceme of each plant. At maturity, the selfed plants were individually harvested and seeds were catalogued and stored to ensure that the source of the seed was known.

Self-pollinated M₃ seed and Westar controls were analyzed in 10-seed bulk samples for fatty acid

composition via gas chromatography. Statistical thresholds for each fatty acid component were established using a Z-distribution with a stringency level of 1 in 10,000. The selected M₃ seeds were planted in the greenhouse along with Westar controls. The seed was sown in 4-inch pots containing Pro-Mix soil and the plants were maintained at 25°C/15°C, 14/10 hr day/night cycle in the greenhouse. At flowering, the terminal raceme was self-pollinated by bagging. At maturity, selfed M₄ seed was individually harvested from each plant, labelled, and stored to ensure that the source of the seed was known.

The M₄ seed was analyzed in 10-seed bulk samples. Statistical thresholds for each fatty acid component were established from 259 control samples using a Z-distribution of 1 in 800. Selected M₄ lines were planted in a field trial in Carman, Manitoba in 3-meter rows with 6-inch spacing. Ten M₄ plants in each row were bagged for self-pollination. At maturity, the selfed plants were individually harvested and the open pollinated plants in the row were bulk harvested. The M₅ seed from single

plant selections was analyzed in 10-seed bulk samples and the bulk row harvest in 50-seed bulk samples.

Selected M₅ lines were planted in the greenhouse along with Westar controls. The seed was grown as 5 previously described. At flowering the terminal raceme was self-pollinated by bagging. At maturity, selfed M₆ seed was individually harvested from each plant and analyzed in 10-seed bulk samples for fatty acid composition.

Selected M₆ lines were entered into field trials in Eastern Idaho. The four trial locations were selected for the wide variability in growing conditions. The locations included Burley, Tetonia, Lamont and Shelley (Table I). The lines were planted in four 3-meter rows with an 8-inch spacing, each plot was replicated four

times. The planting design was determined using a Randomized Complete Block Designed. The commercial cultivar Westar was used as a check cultivar. At maturity the plots were harvested to determine yield.

20 Yield of the entries in the trial was determined by taking the statistical average of the four replications. The Least Significant Difference Test was used to rank the entries in the randomized complete block design.

TABLE I

25	<u>Trial Loc</u>	cations for Selected Fatty Acid Mutants								
	LOCATION	SITE CHARACTERIZATIONS								
	BURLEY	Irrigated. Long season. High temperatures during flowering.								
	TETONIA	Dryland. Short season. Cool temperatures.								
30	LAMONT	Dryland. Short season. Cool temperatures.								
	SHELLEY	Irrigated. Medium season. High temperatures during flowering.								

- 30 -

To determine the fatty acid profile of entries, plants in each plot were bagged for self-pollination. The M_7 seed from single plants was analyzed for fatty acids in ten-seed bulk samples.

To determine the genetic relationships of the selected fatty acid mutants crosses were made. Flowers, of M₆ or later generation mutations were used in crossing. F₁ seed was harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition to determine the mode of gene action. The F₁ progeny were planted in the greenhouse. The resulting plants were self-pollinated, the F₂ seed harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition for allelism studies. The F₂ seed and parent line seed was planted in the greenhouse, individual plants were self-pollinated. The F₃ seed of individual plants was tested for fatty acid composition using 10-seed bulk samples as described previously.

In the analysis of some genetic relationships dihaploid populations were made from the microspores of the F₁ hybrids. Self-pollinated seed from dihaploid plants were analyzed for fatty acid analysis using methods described previously.

For chemical analysis, 10-seed bulk samples were hand ground with a glass rod in a 15-mL polypropylene tube and extracted in 1.2 mL 0.25 N KOH in 1:1 ether/methanol. The sample was vortexed for 30 sec. and heated for 60 sec. in a 60°C water bath. Four mL of saturated NaCl and 2.4 mL of iso-octane were added, and the mixture was vortexed again. After phase separation, 600 μL of the upper organic phase were pipetted into individual vials and stored under nitrogen at -5°C. One μL samples were injected into a Supelco SP-2330 fused silica capillary column (0.25 mm ID, 30 M length, 0.20 μm df).

The gas chromatograph was set at 180°C for 5.5 minutes, then programmed for a 2°C/minute increase to 212°C, and held at this temperature for 1.5 minutes. Total run time was 23 minutes. Chromatography settings 5 were: Column head pressure - 15 psi, Column flow (He) - 0.7 mL/min., Auxiliary and Column flow - 33 mL/min., Hydrogen flow - 33 mL/min., Air flow - 400 mL/min., Injector temperature - 250°C, Detector temperature - 300°C, Split vent - 1/15.

Table II describes the upper and lower statistical thresholds for each fatty acid of interest.

TABLE II

Statistical Thresholds for Specific Fatty Acids

Derived from Control Westar Plantings

15				Percent Fa	tty Aci	ds	
	Genotype	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1} C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Sats	•
	M ₃ Generation	on(1 in 1	.0,000	rejection rat	ce)		*
	Lower	3.3	1.4		13.2	5.3	6.0
20	Upper	4.3	2.5	71.0	21.6	9.9	8.3
	•	•	_	ection rate)			
	Lower	3.6	0.8	. 	12.2	3.2	5.3
	Upper	6.3	3.1	76.0	32.4	9.9	11.2
	•						
	M ₅ Generation	on (1 in	755 re	jection rate)			
25	Lower	2.7	0.9		9.6	2.6	4.5
	<u>Upper</u>	5.7	2.7	80.3	26.7	9.6	10.0
	'Sats=Total	Saturate	Conte	nt			

At the M₃ generation, twelve lines exceeded the lower statistical threshold for palmitic acid (≤3.3%).

30 Line W13097.4 had 3.1% palmitic acid and an FDA saturate content of 4.5%. After a cycle in the greenhouse, M₄ seed

- 32 -

from line W13097.4 (designated line A144) was analyzed. Line W13097.4.1(A144.1) had 3.1% C_{16:0}, exceeding the lower statistical threshold of 3.6%. The FDA saturate content for A144.1 was 4.5%. The fatty acid compositions for the 5 M₃, M₄ and M₅ generations of this family are summarized in Table III.

TABLE III

Fatty Acid Composition of a Low Palmitic Acid/Low FDA
Saturate Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

10		Percent Fatty Acids						
	Genotype ^a	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0} C	C _{18:1} C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Satsb	Tot Satc	
	Westar 7.0	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	5.9	
15	W13097.4 (M ₃)	3.1	1.4	63.9	18.6	9.5	4.5	5.6
	W13097.4 (M ₄)	3.1	1.4	66.2	19.9	6.0	4.5	5.5
20	A144.1.9 (M _s)	2.9	1.4	64.3	20.7	7.3	4.4	5.3

^aLetter and numbers up to second decimal point indicate the plant line. Number after second decimal point indicates an individual plant.

^cTot Sat=Total Saturate Content

The M₅ seed of ten self-pollinated A144.1 (ATCC 40813) plants averaged 3.1% palmitic acid and 4.7% FDA saturates. One selfed plant (A144.1.9) contained 2.9% 30 palmitic acid and FDA saturates of 4.4%. Bulk seed analysis from open-pollinated (A144.1) plants at the M₅ generation averaged 3.1% palmitic acid and 4.7% FDA saturates. The fatty acid composition of the bulked and individual A144.1 lines are summarized in Table IV.

²⁵ bSat=FDA Saturates

- 33 -

TABLE IV

Fatty Acid Composition of A144

Low Palmitic Acid/Low FDA Saturate Line

	Percent Fatty Acids						
Genotype ^a	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0} C	18:1 C ₁₈	. C _{18:3}	Sats	b Tot	Satc
Individual	ly Sel	f-Polli	nated P	lants		•	
A144.1.1	3.2	1.6	64.4	20.5	7.0	4.8	5.9
A144.1.2	3.0	1.5	67.4	18.6	6.3	4.5	.5.7
A144.1.3	3.6	1.8	61.4	22.4	7.5	5.2	6.6
A144.1.4	3.2	1.5	64.6	20.9	6.7	4.7	5.8
A144.1.5	3.3	1.7	60.0	23.9	7.9	5.0	6.1
A144.1.6	3.1	1.4	67.3	17.8	6.5	4.6	5.2
A144.1.7	3.1	1.6	67.7	17.4	6.5	4.8	5.4
A144.1.8	3.1	1.8	66.9	18.7	6.1	4.9	5.4
A144.1.9	2.9	1.4	64.3	20.7	7.3	4.4	5.3
A144.1.10	3.1	1.5	62.5	20.4	7.7	4.6	5.6
Average of	Indiv	idually	Self-Po	ollinate	ed Pla	nts	
A144.1.1-1	0 3.1	1.6	64.8	20.1	6.9	4.7	5.7
Bulk Analy	sis of	Open-Po	ollinate	ed Plant	s		
A144.1B	3.1	1.6	64.8	19.4	7.8	4.7	5.7

^{*}Letter and numbers up to second decimal point indicate the plant line. Number after second decimal point indicates an individual plant.

These reduced levels have remained stable to the M₇ generations in both greenhouse and field conditions.

These reduced levels have remained stable to the M₇ generation in multiple location field trails. Over all locations, the self-pollinated plants (A144) averaged 2.9% palmitic acid and FDA saturates of 4.6%. The fatty

bSat=FDA Saturates

^cTot Sat=Total Saturate Content

- 34 -

acid composition of the A144 lines for each Idaho location are summarized in Table V. In the multiple location replicated trial the yield of A144 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar. By means of seed mutagenesis, the level of saturated fatty acids of canola (B. napus) was reduced from 5.9% to 4.6%. The palmitic acid content was reduced from 3.9% to 2.9%.

TABLE V

10 Fatty Acid Composition of a Mutant Low Palmitic
Acid/Low FDA Saturate Canola Line at
Different Field Locations in Idaho

	Trial Location	Percent Fatty Acids								
15		C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1} C ₁₁	B:2 C _{18:3}	Sats	Tot	Sats		
	Burley	2.9	1.3	62.3	20.6	10.3	4.2	5.0		
	Tetonia	2.9	1.7	59.7	21.0	11.2	4.6	5.7		
	Lamont	3.1	1.8	63.2	19.5	9.0	4.9	5.9		
20	Shelley	2.8	1.9	64.5	18.8	8.8	4.7	5.9		

To determine the genetic relationship of the palmitic acid mutation in A144 (C_{16:0} - 3.0%, C_{18:0} - 1.5%, C_{18:1} - 67.4%, C_{18:2} - 18.6%, C_{18:3} - 6.3%) to other fatty acid mutations it was crossed to A129 a mutant high oleic acid (C_{16:0} - 3.8%, C_{18:0} - 2.3%, C_{16:1} - 75.6%, C_{18:2} - 9.5%, C_{18:3} - 4.9%). Over 570 dihaploid progeny produced from the F₁ hybrid were harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition. The results of the progeny analysis are summarized in Table VB. Independent segregation of the palmitic traits was observed which demonstrates that the genetic control of palmitic acid in A144 is different from the high oleic acid mutation in A129.

PCT/US96/20090

- 35 -

TABLE VB

Genetic Studies of Dihaploid Progeny of A144 X A129

		•	Frequ	ency
5	Genotype	C _{16:0} Content (%)	Observed	Expected
	p-p-p2-p2-	3.0%	162	143
	p+p+p2-p2-	3.4%	236	286
	p+p+p2+p2+	3.8%	175	143

EXAMPLE 2

An additional low FDA saturate line, designated A149.3 (ATCC 40814), was also produced by the method of Example 1. A 50-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 3.6%, C_{18:0} - 1.4%, C_{18:1} - 65.5%, C_{18:2} - 18.3%, C_{18:3} - 8.2%, FDA Sats - 5.0%, Total Sats - 5.9%. This line has also stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to the M₅ generation. In a multiple location replicated trial the yield of A149 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

20 EXAMPLE 3

An additional low palmitic acid and low FDA saturate line, designated M3094.4 (ATCC 75023), was also produced by the method of Example 1. A 10-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 2.7%, C_{18:0} - 1.6%, C_{18:1} - 66.6%, C_{18:2} - 20.0%, C_{18:3} - 6.1%, C_{20:1} - 1.4%, C_{22:1} - 0.0%, FDA Saturate - 4.3%, Total Saturates - 5.2%. This line has stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to the M₅ generation. In a single replicated trial the yield of M3094 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar.

M3094.4 was crossed to A144, a low palmitic acid mutation (Example 1) for allelism studies. Fatty acid composition of the $\rm F_2$ seed showed the two lines to be

- 36 -

allelic. The mutational events in A144 and M3094, although different in origin, are in the same gene.

EXAMPLE 4

In the studies of Example 1, at the M₃ generation, 5 470 lines exceed the upper statistical threshold for palmitic acid (≥4.3%). One M₃ line, W14538.6, contained 9.2% palmitic acid. Selfed progenies of this line, since designated M3007.4 (ATCC 75022), continued to exceed to the upper statistical threshold for high palmitic acid at 10 both the M₄ and M₅ generations with palmitic acid levels of 11.7% and 9.1%, respectively. The fatty acid composition of this high palmitic acid mutant, which was stable to the M₇ generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is summarized in Table VI.

Fatty Acid Composition of a High Palmitic

Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

	_			Percen	t Fatty	Acids	
	Genotype	<u>C</u> 16:0	<u>C</u> _{18:0}		C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Sats'
20	Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
	W114538.6 (M ₃)	8.6	1.6	56.4	20.3	9.5	10.2
	M3007.2 (M ₄)	11.7	2.1	57.2	18.2	5.1	13.9
25	M3007.4 (M ₅)	9.1	1.4	63.3	13.7	5.5	12.7

^{*}Sats=Total Saturate Content

To determine the genetic relationship of the high palmitic mutation in M3007.4 to the low palmitic mutation in A144 (Example 1) crosses were made. The F_2 progeny were analyzed for fatty acid composition. The data presented in Table VIB shows the high palmitic group ($C_{16:0}$

- 37 -

> 7.0%) makes up one-quarter of the total population analyzed. The high palmitic acid mutation was controlled by one single gene mutation.

TABLE VIB

Genetic Studies of M3007 X A144

5

			Frequ	ency	_
	Genotype	C _{16:0} Content(%)	Observed	Expected	_
10	p-p-/p-hp- hp-hp-	<7.0 >7.0	151 39	142 47	

An additional M₃ line, W4773.7, contained 4.5% palmitic acid. Selfed progenies of this line, since designated A200.7 (ATCC 40816), continued to exceed the upper statistical threshold for high palmitic acid in both the M₄ and M₅ generations with palmitic acid levels of 6.3% and 6.0%, respectively. The fatty acid composition of this high palmitic acid mutant, which was stable to the M₇ generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is summarized in Table VII.

TABLE VII

Fatty Acid Composition of a High Palmitic

Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

Percent Fatty Acids

		,					
	Genotype	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Sats'
25	Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
	W4773.7 (M ₃)	4.5	2.9	63.5	19.9	7.1	9.3
	M4773.7.7 (M ₄)	6.3	2.6	59.3	20.5	5.6	10.8
30	A200.7.7 (M _s)	6.0	1.9	60.2	20.4	7.3	9.4
	Sats=Total	Satura	te Con	tent			

- 38 -

EXAMPLE 5

Selection of Low Stearic Acid Canola Lines

In the studies of Example 1, at the M₃ generation, 42 lines exceeded the lower statistical threshold for 5 stearic acid (<1.4%). Line W14859.6 had 1.3% stearic acid. At the M₅ generation, its selfed progeny (M3052.1) continued to fall within the lower statistical threshold for C_{18:0} with 0.8% stearic acid. The fatty acid composition of this low stearic acid mutant, which was stable under both field and greenhouse conditions is summarized in Table VIII. In a single location replicated yield trial M3052.1 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

TABLE VIII

Fatty Acid Composition of a Low

Stearic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

					Percen	t Fatty	/ Acids
	Genotype	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18;3}	Sats
	Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	5.9
20	$W14859.6$ (M_3)	5.3	1.3	56.1	23.7	9.6	7.5
	M3052.1 (M ₄)	4.9	0.9	58.9	22.7	9.3	5.8
25	M3052.6 (M ₅)	4.4	0.8	62.1	21.2	7.9	5.2

15

To determine the genetic relationship of the low stearic acid mutation of M3052.1 to other fatty acid mutations it was crossed to the low palmitic acid mutation A144 (Example 1). Seed from over 300 dihaploid progeny were harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition. The results are summarized in Table VIIIB. Independent segregation of the palmitic acid and stearic acid traits was observed. The low stearic acid mutation

was genetically different from the low palmitic acid mutations found in A144 and M3094.

TABLE VIIIB

Genetic Studies of M3052 X A144

			rrequer	<u>ICY</u>
	-		· ·	
	Genotype	C _{16:0} + C _{18:0} Content(%)	Observed	Expected
10	p-p-s-s- p-p-s-s-/p+p+s-s- p+p+s+s+	<4.9% 4.0% <x<5.6%>5.6%</x<5.6%>	87 152 70	77 154 77

An additional M₅ line, M3051.10, contained 0.9% and 1.1% stearic acid in the greenhouse and field respectively. A ten-seed analysis of this line showed 15 the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 3.9%, C_{18:0} - 1.1%, C_{18:1} - 61.7%, C_{18:2} - 23.0%, C_{18:3} - 7.6%, FDA saturates - 5.0%, Total Saturates - 5.8%. In a single location replicated yield trial M3051.10 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar 20 Westar. M3051.10 was crossed to M3052.1 for allelism studies. Fatty acid composition of the F₂ seed showed the two lines to be allelic. The mutational events in M3051.10 and M3052.1 although different in origin were in the same gene.

An additional M₅ line, M3054.7, contained 1.0% and 1.3% stearic acid in the greenhouse and field respectively. A ten-seed analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 4.0%, C_{18:0} - 1.0%, C_{18:1} - 66.5%, C_{18:2} - 18:4%, C_{18:3} - 7.2%, saturates - 30 5.0%, Total Saturates - 6.1%. In a single location replicated yield trial M3054.7 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar. M3054.7 was crossed to M3052.1 for allelism studies.

- 40 -

Fatty acid composition of the F_2 seed showed the two lines to be allelic. The mutational events in M3054.7, M3051.10 and M3052.1 although different in origin were in the same gene.

5

EXAMPLE 6

High Oleic Acid Canola Lines

In the studies of Example 1, at the M_3 generation, 31 lines exceeded the upper statistical threshold for oleic acid (\geq 71.0%). Line W7608.3 had 71.2% oleic acid.

- 10 At the M₄ generation, its selfed progeny (W7608.3.5, since designated A129.5) continued to exceed the upper statistical threshold for C_{18:1} with 78.8% oleic acid. M₅ seed of five self-pollinated plants of line A129.5 (ATCC 40811) averaged 75.0% oleic acid. A single plant
- selection, Al29.5.3 had 75.6% oleic acid. The fatty acid composition of this high oleic acid mutant, which was stable under both field and greenhouse conditions to the M₂ generation, is summarized in Table IX. This line also stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to
- the M, generation in field trials in multiple locations.

 Over all locations the self-pollinated plants (A129)

 averaged 78.3% oleic acid. The fatty acid composition of the A129 for each Idaho trial location are summarized in Table X. In multiple location replicated yield trials,
- 25 Al29 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

The canola oil of A129, after commercial processing, was found to have superior oxidative stability compared to Westar when measured by the Accelerated Oxygen Method (AOM), American Oil Chemists' Society Official Method Cd 12-57 for fat stability; Active Oxygen Method (revised 1989). The AOM of Westar was 18 AOM hours and for A129 was 30 AOM hours.

PCT/US96/20090

- 41 -

TABLE IX

Fatty Acid Composition of a High

Oleic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

Percent Fatty Acids

Percent Fatty Acids

						·		
5	Genotype	.C16:0	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	$C_{18:3}$	Sats	
	Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0	
	W7608.3 (M ₃)	3.9	2.4	71.2	12.7	6.1	7.6	•
10	W7608.3.5 (M ₄)	3.9	2.0	78.8	7.7	3.9	7.3	
	A129.5.3 (M _s)	3.8	2.3	75.6	9.5	4.9	7.6	

Sats=Total Saturate Content

TABLE X

Fatty Acid Composition of a Mutant High
Oleic Acid Line at Different Field Locations in Idaho

							
	Location	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Sats
	Burley	3.3	2.1	77.5	8.1	6.0	6.5
20	Tetonia	3.5	3.4	77.8	6.5	4.7	8.5
	Lamont	3.4	1.9	77.8	7.4	6.5	6.3
	Shelley	3.3	2.6	80.0	5.7	4.5	7.7

Sats=Total Saturate Content

The genetic relationship of the high oleic acid

25 mutation Al29 to other oleic desaturases was demonstrated in crosses made to commercial canola cultivars and a low linolenic acid mutation. Al29 was crossed to the commercial cultivar Global (C_{16:0} - 4.5%, C_{18:0} - 1.5%, C_{18:1} - 62.9%, C_{18:2} - 20.0%, C_{18:3} - 7.3%). Approximately 200 F₂

30 individuals were analyzed for fatty acid composition. The results are summarized in Table XB. The segregation fit 1:2:1 ratio suggesting a single co-dominant gene

- 42 -

controlled the inheritance of the high oleic acid phenotype.

5

TABLE XB

Genetic Studies of Al29 X Global

Frequency

\		C _{18:0}		
	Genotype	Content(%)	Observed	Expected
	od-od-	77.3	43	47
10	od-od+	71.7	106	94
	od+od+	66.1	49	47

A cross between Al29 and IMC 01, a low linolenic acid variety ($C_{16:0}$ - 4.1%, $C_{18:0}$ - 1.9%, $C_{18:1}$ - 66.4%, $C_{18:2}$ - 18.1%, $C_{18:3}$ - 5.7%), was made to determine the inheritance of the oleic acid desaturase and linoleic acid desaturase. In the F_1 hybrids both the oleic acid and linoleic acid desaturase genes approached the mid-parent values indicating a co-dominant gene actions. Fatty acid analysis of the F_2 individuals confirmed a

20 1:2:1:2:4:2:1:2:1 segregation of two independent, codominant genes (Table XC). A line was selected from the
cross of Al29 and IMC01 and designated as IMC130 (ATCC
deposit no. 75446) as described in U.S. Patent
Application No. 08/425,108, incorporated herein by
25 reference.

TABLE XC

Genetic Studies of Al29 X IMC 01

			Frequ	iency
	Genotype	Ratio	Observed	Expected
30	od-od-ld-ld-	1	11	12
	od-od-ld-ld+	2	30	24
	od-od-ld+ld+	1	10	12
	od-od+ld-ld-	2	25	24
	od-od+ld-ld+	4	54	47
35	od-od+ld+ld+	2	18	24
	od+od+ld-ld-	1	7	12
	od+od+ld-ld+	2	, 25	24
	od+od+ld+ld+	1		
		-	8	12

- 43 -

An additional high oleic acid line, designated A128.3, was also produced by the disclosed method. A 50-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 3.5%, C_{18:0} - 1.8%, C_{18:1} - 5.77.3%, C_{18:2} - 9.0%, C_{18:3} - 5.6%, FDA Sats - 5.3%, Total Sats - 6.4%. This line also stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition to the M₇ generation. In multiple locations replicated yield trials, A128 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

Al29 was crossed to Al28.3 for allelism studies. Fatty acid composition of the F_2 seed showed the two lines to be allelic. The mutational events in Al29 and Al28.3 although different in origin were in the same gene.

An additional high oleic acid line, designated M3028.-10 (ATCC 75026), was also produced by the disclosed method in Example 1. A 10-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 3.5%, C_{18:0} - 1.8%, C_{18:1} - 77.3%, C_{18:2} - 9.0%, C_{18:3} - 20 5.6%, FDA Saturates - 5.3%, Total Saturates - 6.4%. In a single location replicated yield trial M3028.10 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar.

EXAMPLE 7

25 <u>Low Linoleic Acid Canola</u>

In the studies of Example 1, at the M₃ generation, 80 lines exceeded the lower statistical threshold for linoleic acid (≤ 13.2%). Line W12638.8 had 9.4% linoleic acid. At the M₄ and M₅ generations, its selfed progenies [W12638.8, since designated A133.1 (ATCC 40812)] continued to exceed the statistical threshold for low C₁8.2 with linoleic acid levels of 10.2% and 8.4%, respectively. The fatty acid composition of this low linoleic acid mutant, which was stable to the M₃ generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is

- 44 -

summarized in Table XI. In multiple location replicated yield trials, A133 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar Westar. An additional low linoleic acid line, designated M3062.8 (ATCC 75025), was also produced by the disclosed method. A 10-seed bulk analysis of this line showed the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 3.8%, C_{18:0} - 2.3%, C_{18:1} - 77.1%, C_{18:2} - 8.9%, C_{18:3} - 4.3%, FDA Sats-6.1%. This line has also stably maintained its mutant fatty acid composition in the field and greenhouse.

TABLE XI

Fatty Acid Composition of a Low

Linoleic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

		nt Fatty	Fatty Acids				
15	Genotype	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Satsb
	Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
	W12638.8 (M ₃)	3.9	2.3	75.0	9.4	6.1	7.5
20	W12638.8.1 (M ₄)	4.1	1.7	74.6	10.2	5.9	7.1
	A133.1.8 (M ₅)	3.8	2.0	77.7	8.4	5.0	7.0

^aLetter and numbers up to second decimal point indicate the plant line. Number after second decimal point indicates an individual plant.

EXAMPLE 8

Low Linolenic and Linoleic Acid Canola

In the studies of Example 1, at the M_3 generation, 30 57 lines exceeded the lower statistical threshold for linolenic acid (\leq 5.3%). Line W14749.8 had 5.3% linolenic acid and 15.0% linoleic acid. At the M_4 and M_5

bSats=Total Saturate Content

generations, its selfed progenies [W14749.8, since designated M3032 (ATCC 75021)] continued to exceed the statistical threshold for low C_{18:3} with linolenic acid levels of 2.7% and 2.3%, respectively, and for a low sum of linolenic and linoleic acids with totals of 11.8% and 12.5% respectively. The fatty acid composition of this low linolenic acid plus linoleic acid mutant, which was stable to the M₅ generation under both field and greenhouse conditions, is summarized in Table XII. In a single location replicated yield trial M3032 was not significantly different in yield from the parent cultivar (Westar).

TABLE XII

Fatty Acid Composition of a Low

Linolenic Acid Canola Line Produced by Seed Mutagenesis

Percent Fatty Acids

	Genotype	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	Sats
	Westar	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	7.0
0	W14749.8 (M ₃)	4.0	2.5	69.4	15.0	5.3	6.5
	M3032.8 (M ₄)	3.9	2.4	77.9	9.1	2.7	6.4
	M3032.1 (M ₅)	3.5	2.8	80.0	10.2	2.3	6.5

25 Sats=Total Saturate Content

EXAMPLE 9

The high oleic acid mutation of A129 was introduced into different genetic backgrounds by crossing and selecting for fatty acid and agronomic

30 characteristics. A129 (now renamed IMC 129) was crossed to Legend, a commercial spring Brassica napus variety. Legend has the following fatty acid composition: C_{16.0} - 3.8%, C_{18:0} - 2.1%, C_{18:1} - 63.1%, C_{18:2} - 17.8%, C_{18:3} - 9.3%.

- 46 -

The cross and progeny resulting from were coded as 89B60303.

The F_1 seed resulting from the cross was planted in the greenhouse and self-pollinated to produce F_2 seed. 5 The F_2 seed was planted in the field for evaluation. Individual plants were selected in the field for agronomic characteristics. At maturity, the F_3 seed was harvested from each selected plant and analyzed for fatty acid composition.

Individuals which had fatty acid profiles similar to the high oleic acid parent (IMC 129) were advanced back to the field. Seeds (F₃) of selected individuals were planted in the field as selfing rows and in plots for preliminary yield and agronomic evaluations. At flowering the F₃ plants in the selfing rows were selfpollinated. At maturity the F₄ seed was harvested from individual plants to determine fatty acid composition. Yield of the individual selections was determined from the harvested plots.

Based on fatty acid composition of the individual plants and yield and agronomic characteristics of the plots F_4 lines were selected and advanced to the next generation in the greenhouse. Five plants from each selected line were self-pollinated. At maturity the F_5 seed was harvested from each and analyzed for fatty acid composition.

The F_5 line with the highest oleic fatty profile was advanced to the field as a selfing row. The remaining F_5 seed from the five plants was bulked together 30 for planting the yield plots in the field. At flowering, the F_5 plants in each selfing-row were self-pollinated. At maturity the F_6 self-pollinated seed was harvest from the selfing row to determine fatty acid composition and select for the high oleic acid trait. Yield of the

- 47 -

individual selections was determined from the harvested plots.

Fifteen F6 lines having the high oleic fatty profile of IMC 129 and the desired agronomic 5 characteristics were advanced to the greenhouse to increase seed for field trialing. At flowering the F6 plants were self-pollinated. At maturity the F, seed was harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition. F, seed lines which had fatty acid profiles most similar 10 to IMC 129 (Table XIII) were selected and planted in the field as selfing rows, the remaining seed was bulked together for yield trialing. The high oleic fatty acid profile of IMC 129 was maintained through seven generations of selection for fatty acid and agronomic 15 traits in an agronomic background of Brassica napus which was different from the parental lines. Thus, the genetic trait from IMC 129 for high oleic acid can be used in the development of new high oleic Brassica napus varieties.

TABLE XIII

20 Fatty Acid Composition of Advanced Breeding Generation

with High Oleic Acid Trait (IMC 129 X Legend)

			Fatt	y Acid C	omposit:	ion(%)	
25	F ₇ Selections of 89B60303	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	· .
	93.06194 93.06196 93.06198	3.8 4.0 3.7	1.6 2.8 2.2	78.3 77.3 78.0	7.7 6.8 7.4	4.4 3.4 4.2	

The high oleic acid trait of IMC 129 was also introduced into a different genetic background by combining crossing and selection methods with the generation of dihaploid populations from the microspores of the F₁ hybrids. IMC 129 was crossed to Hyola 41, a commercial spring *Brassica napus* variety. Hyola 41 has the following fatty acid composition: C_{16:0} - 3.8%, C_{18:0} -

- 48 -

2.7%, $C_{18:1}$ - 64.9%, $C_{18:2}$ - 16.2%, $C_{18:3}$ - 9.1%. The cross and progeny resulting from the cross were labeled . 90DU.146.

The F_1 seed was planted from the cross and a 5 dihaploid (DH₁) population was made from the F_1 microspores using standard procedures for Brassica napus. Each DH, plant was self-pollinated at flowering to produce DH_1 seed. At maturity the DH_1 seed was harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition. DH_1 individuals 10 which expressed the high oleic fatty acid profit of IMC 129 were advanced to the next generation in the greenhouse. For each individual selected five DH, seeds were planted. At flowering the DH2 plants were selfpollinated. At maturity the DH_2 seed was harvested and 15 analyzed for fatty acid composition. The DH_2 seed which was similar in fatty acid composition to the IMC 129 parent was advanced to the field as a selfing row. remaining DH_2 seed of that group was bulked and planted in plots to determine yield and agronomic characteristics of 20 the line. At flowering individual DH, plants in the selfing row were self-pollinated. At maturity the DH_3 seed was harvested from the individual plants to determine fatty acid composition. Yield of the selections was determined from the harvested plots. 25 Based on fatty acid composition, yield and agronomic characteristics selections were advanced to the next generation in the greenhouse. The DH4 seed produced in the greenhouse by self-pollination was analyzed for fatty acid composition. Individuals which were similar to the 30 fatty acid composition of the IMC 129 parent were advanced to the field to test for fatty acid stability and yield evaluation. The harvested DH_5 seed from six locations maintained the fatty acid profile of the IMC 129 parent (Table XIV).

- 49 -

TABLE XIV

Fatty Acid Composition of Advanced Dihaploid Breeding Generation with High Oleic Acid Trait
(IMC 129 X Hyola41)

5	· .		Fatty	Acid C	ompositi	on(%)	
	DH5 of 90DU.146 at Multiple Locations	C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	
10	Aberdeen Blackfoot	3.7	2.6	75.4 75.5	8.1	7.2 7.5	
10	Idaho Falls Rexberg	3.7	3.1	75.0 75.3	7.5	8.1	
	Swan Valley Lamont	3.5	3.4 2.8	74.5 72.0	7.0 10.1	6.5 7.3 8.4	

15

EXAMPLE 10

Canola Lines Q508 and Q4275

Seeds of the *B. napus* line IMC-129 were mutagenized with methyl N-nitrosoguanidine (MNNG). The MNNG treatment consisted of three parts: pre-soak,

20 mutagen application, and wash. A 0.05M Sorenson's phosphate buffer was used to maintain pre-soak and mutagen treatment pH at 6.1. Two hundred seeds were treated at one time on filter paper (Whatman #3M) in a petri dish (100mm x 15mm). The seeds were pre-soaked in 15 mls of 0.05M Sorenson's buffer, pH 6.1, under continued agitation for two hours. At the end of the pre-soak period, the buffer was removed from the plate.

A 10mM concentration of MNNG in 0.05M Sorenson's buffer, pH 6.1, was prepared prior to use. Fifteen ml of 10m MNNG was added to the seeds in each plate. The seeds were incubated at 22°C±3°C in the dark under constant agitation for four (4) hours. At the end of the incubation period, the mutagen solution was removed.

The seeds were washed with three changes of distilled water at 10 minute intervals. The fourth wash

- 50 -

was for thirty minutes. This treatment regime produced an LD60 population.

Treated seeds were planted in standard greenhouse potting soil and placed into an environmentally

5 controlled greenhouse. The plants were grown under sixteen hours of light. At flowering, the racemes were bagged to produce selfed seed. At maturity, the M2 seed was harvested. Each M2 line was given an identifying number. The entire MNNG-treated seed population was designated as the Q series.

Harvested M2 seeds was planted in the greenhouse. The growth conditions were maintained as previously described. The racemes were bagged at flowering for selfing. At maturity, the selfed M3 seed was harvested and analyzed for fatty acid composition. For each M3 seed line, approximately 10-15 seeds were analyzed in bulk as described in Example 1.

High oleic-low linoleic M3 lines were selected from the M3 population using a cutoff of >82% oleic acid and <5.0% linoleic. From the first 1600 M3 lines screened for fatty acid composition, Q508 was identified. The Q508 M3 generation was advanced to the M4 generation in the greenhouse. Table XV shows the fatty acid composition of Q508 and IMC 129. The M4 selfed seed maintained the selected high oleic-low linoleic acid phenotype (Table XVI).

TABLE XV
Fatty Acid Composition of A129 and High
Oleic Acid M3 Mutant Q508

30	Line #	16:0	18:0	18:1	18:2	18:3
	A129*	4.0	2.4	77.7	7.8	4.2
	Q508	3.9	2.1	84.9	2.4	2.9

Fatty acid composition of A129 is the average of 50 self-pollinated plants grown with the M3 population

- 51 -

M₄ generation Q508 plants had poor agronomic qualities in the field compared to Westar. Typical plants were slow growing relative to Westar, lacked early vegetative vigor, were short in stature, tended to be chlorotic and had short pods. The yield of Q508 was very low compared to Westar.

The M₄ generation Q508 plants in the greenhouse tended to be reduced in vigor compared to Westar. However, Q508 yields in the greenhouse were greater than 10 Q508 yields in the field.

TABLE XVI

Fatty Acid Composition of Seed Oil

from Greenhouse-Grown Q508, IMC 129 and Westar.

	Line	16:0	18:0	18:1	18:2	18:3	FDA Sats
15	IMC 129ª	4.0	2.4	77.7	7.8	4.2	6.4
	Westarb	3.9	1.9	67.5	17.6	7.4	>5.8
	Q508°	3.9	2.1	84.9	2.4	2.9	6.0

*Average of 50 self-pollinated plants

Nine other M4 high-oleic low-linoleic lines were also identified: Q3603, Q3733, Q4249, Q6284, Q6601, Q6761, Q7415, Q4275, and Q6676. Some of these lines had good agronomic characteristics and an elevated oleic acid level in seeds of about 80% to about 84%.

Q4275 was crossed to the variety Cyclone. After selfing for seven generations, mature seed was harvested from 93GS34-179, a progeny line of the Q4275 Cyclone cross. Referring to Table XVII, fatty acid composition of a bulk seed sample shows that 93GS34 retained the seed fatty acid composition of Q4275. 93GS34-179 also maintained agronomically desirable characteristics.

²⁰ bData from Example 1

^{&#}x27;Average of 50 self-pollinated plants

- 52 -

After more than seven generations of selfing of Q4275, plants of Q4275, IMC 129 and 93GS34 were field grown during the summer season. The selections were tested in 4 replicated plots (5 feet X 20 feet) in a randomized block design. Plants were open pollinated. No selfed seed was produced. Each plot was harvested at maturity, and a sample of the bulk harvested seed from each line was analyzed for fatty acid composition as described above. The fatty acid compositions of the selected lines are shown in Table XVII.

Table XVII

Fatty Acid Composition of
Field Grown IMC 129, Q4275 and 93GS34 Seeds

	Line	Fatty Acid Composition (%)										
		C _{16:0}	C _{18:0}	C _{18:1}	C _{18:2}	C _{18:3}	FDA Sats					
15	IMC 129	3.3	2.4	76.7	8.7	5.2	5.7					
	Q4275	3.7	3.1	82.1	4.0	3.5	6.8					
	93GS34-179	2.6	2.7	85.0	2.8	3.3	5.3					

The results shown in Table XVII show that Q4275 maintained the selected high oleic - low linoleic acid phenotype under field conditions. The agronomic characteristics of Q4275 plants were superior to those of Q508.

M₄ generation Q508 plants were crossed to a dihaploid selection of Westar, with Westar serving as the female parent. The resulting F1 seed was termed the 92EF population. About 126 F1 individuals that appeared to have better agronomic characteristics than the Q508 parent were selected for selfing. A portion of the F₂ seed from such individuals was replanted in the field.

30 Each F2 plant was selfed and a portion of the resulting F3 seed was analyzed for fatty acid composition. The content of oleic acid in F₃ seed ranged from 59 to 79%.

No high oleic (>80%) individuals were recovered with good agronomic type.

A portion of the F₂ seed of the 92EF population was planted in the greenhouse to analyze the genetics of the Q508 line. F₃ seed was analyzed from 380 F₂ individuals. The C_{18,1} levels of F₃ seed from the greenhouse experiment is depicted in Figure 1. The data were tested against the hypothesis that Q508 contains two mutant genes that are semi-dominant and additive: the original IMC 129 mutation as well as one additional mutation. The hypothesis also assumes that homozygous Q508 has greater than 85% oleic acid and homozygous Westar has 62-67% oleic acid. The possible genotypes at each gene in a cross of Q508 by Westar may be designated as:

AA = Westar Fad2a

BB = Westar Fad2b

 $aa = Q508 Fad2^{a}$

 $bb = Q508 Fad2^{b}$

20 Assuming independent segregation, a 1:4:6:4:1 ratio of phenotypes is expected. The phenotypes of heterozygous plants are assumed to be indistinguishable and, thus, the data were tested for fit to a 1:14:1 ratio of homozygous Westar: heterozygous plants: homozygous Q508.

25	Phenotypic	# Of	•
	<u>Ratio</u>	Westar Alleles	<u>Genotype</u>
	1	4	AABB(Westar)
	4	3	AABb, AaBB, AABb, AaBB
	6	2	AaBb, AAbb, AaBb, AaBb, aaBB, AaBb
30	4	1	Aabb, aaBb, Aabb, aaBb
	1	0	aabb (Q508)

Using Chi-square analysis, the oleic acid data fit a 1:14:1 ratio. It was concluded that Q508 differs from

- 54 -

Westar by two major genes that are semi-dominant and additive and that segregate independently. By comparison, the genotype of IMC 129 is aaBB.

The fatty acid composition of representative F3 individuals having greater than 85% oleic acid in seed oil is shown in Table XVIII. The levels of saturated fatty acids are seen to be decreased in such plants, compared to Westar.

TABLE XVIII

92EF F₃ Individuals with >85% C_{10.1} in Seed Oil

10

10	22.51	1 3 111Q1 V	iduais	<u>with >85</u>	8 C _{18:1} ir	Seed Oi	<u>1</u>
	F3 Plant Identifier	Fatty	Acid Cor	mposition	ગ (ક)		
		C16:0	C18:0	C18:1	C18:2	C18:3	FDASA
	+38068	3.401	1.582	85.452	2.134	3.615	4.983
	+38156	3.388	1.379	85.434	2.143	3.701	4.767
15	+38171	3.588	1.511	85.289	2.367	3.425	5.099
	+38181	3.75	1.16	85.312	2.968	3.819	4.977
	+38182	3.529	0.985	85.905	2.614	3.926	4.56
	+38191	3.364	1.039	85.737	2.869	4.039	4.459
	+38196	3.557	1.182	85.054	2.962	4.252	4.739
20	+38202	3.554	1.105	86.091	2.651	3.721	4.713
	+38220	3.093	1.16	86.421	1.931	3.514	4.314
	+38236	3.308	1.349	85.425	2.37	3.605	4.718
	+38408	3.617	1.607	85.34	2.33	3.562	5.224
	+38427	3.494	1.454	85.924	2.206	3.289	4.948
25	+38533	3.64	1.319	85.962	2.715	3.516	4.959

PCT/US96/20090 WO 97/21340

- 55 -

EXAMPLE 11

Leaf and Root Fatty Acid Profiles of Canola Lines IMC-129, Q508, and Westar

Plants of Q508, IMC 129 and Westar were grown in 5 the greenhouse. Mature leaves, primary expanding leaves, petioles and roots were harvested at the 6-8 leaf stage, . frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -70°C. extracts were analyzed by GLC as described in Example 1. The fatty acid profile data are shown in Table XIX.

10

The data in Table XIX indicate that total leaf lipids in Q508 are higher in $C_{18:1}$ content than the $C_{18:2}$ plus $C_{18:3}$ content. The reverse is true for Westar and IMC 129. The difference in total leaf lipids between Q508 and IMC 129 is consistent with the hypothesis that a 15 second Fad2 gene is mutated in Q508.

The C_{16:3} content in the total lipid fraction was about the same for all three lines, suggesting that the plastid FadC gene product was not affected by the O508 mutations. To confirm that the FadC gene was not

- 20 mutated, chloroplast lipids were separated and analyzed. No changes in chloroplast $C_{16:1},\ C_{16:2}$ or $C_{16:3}$ fatty acids were detected in the three lines. The similarity in plastid leaf lipids among Q508, Westar and IMC 129 is consistent with the hypothesis that the second mutation
- 25 in Q508 affects a microsomal Fad2 gene and not a plastid FadC gene.

- 56 -

TABLE XIX

	MATU LEAI			EXPANDING LEAF			PETIOLE			ROOT		
	West.	129	30508	West.	129	3Q50B	West.	129	3Q508	West.	129	30508
16:0	12.1	11.9	10.1	16.4	16.1	11.3	21.7	23.5	11.9	21.1	21.9	12.0
16:1	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.4	-		
16:2	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.8	3.1	2.8	1.8	2.2	1.8	-		<u> </u>
16:3	14.7	15.0	14.0	6.3	5.4	6.9	5.7	4.6	5.7			
18:0	2.2	1.6	1.2	2.5	2.8	1.5	3.7	4.0	1.6	3.6	2.9	2.5
18:1	2.8	4.9	16.7	3.8	8.3	38.0	4.9	12.9	46.9	3.5	6.1	68.8
18:2	12.6	11.5	6.8	13.3	13.8	4.9	20.7	18.3	5.2	28.0	30.4	4.4
18:3	50.6	50.3	46.0	54.2	50.0	33.5	40.4	33.2	25.3	43.8	38.7	12.3

10

5

EXAMPLE 12

Sequences of Mutant and Wild-Type Delta-12 Fatty Acid <u>Desaturases from B. napus</u>

Primers specific for the FAD2 structural gene were used to clone the entire open reading frame (ORF) of the D and F 12-DES genes by reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). RNA from seeds of IMC 129, Q508 and Westar plants was isolated by standard methods and was used as template. The RT-amplified fragments were used for nucleotide sequence determination. The DNA sequence of each gene from each line was determined from both strands by standard dideoxy sequencing methods.

Sequence analysis revealed a G to A transversion at nucleotide 316 (from the translation initiation codon) of the D gene in both IMC 129 (SEQ ID NO:3) and Q508, compared to the sequence of Westar (SEQ ID NO:1). The transversion changes the codon at this position from GAG to AAG and results in a non-conservative substitution of glutamic acid, an acidic residue, for lysine a basic residue. The presence of the same mutation in both lines was expected since the Q508 line was derived from IMC 129. The same base change was also detected in Q508

- 57 -

and IMC 129 when RNA from leaf tissue was used as template.

The G to A mutation at nucleotide 316 was confirmed by sequencing several independent clones

5 containing fragments amplified directly from genomic DNA of IMC 129 and Westar. These results eliminated the possibility of a rare mutation introduced during reverse transcription and PCR in the RT-PCR protocol. It was concluded that the IMC 129 mutant is due to a single base 10 transversion at nucleotide 316 in the coding region of the D gene of rapeseed microsomal delta 12-desaturase.

A single base transition from T to A at nucleotide 515 of the F gene was detected in Q508 compared to the Westar sequence. The mutation changes the codon at this position from CTC to CAC, resulting in the non-conservative substitution of a non-polar residue, leucine, for a polar residue, histidine, in the resulting gene product. No mutations were found in the F gene sequence of IMC 129 compared to the F gene sequence of Westar.

These data support the conclusion that a mutation in a delta-12 desaturase gene sequence results in alterations in the fatty acid profile of plants containing such a mutated gene. Moreover, the data show that when a plant line or species contains two delta-12 desaturase loci, the fatty acid profile of an individual having two mutated loci differs from the fatty acid profile of an individual having one mutated locus.

The mutation in the D gene of IMC 129 and Q508

30 mapped to a region having a conserved amino acid motif
(His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His) found in cloned delta-12 and delta15 membrane bound-desaturases (Table XX).

- 58 -

Alignment of Amino Acid Sequences
of Cloned Canola Membrane Bound-Desaturases

	Desaturase Gene	Sequence	Position
5	Canola-fad2-D(mutant)	AHKCGH	109-114
} !	Canola-Fad2-D	AHECGH	109-114
1	Canola-Fad2-F	AHECGH	109-114
	Canola-FadC	<u>GHD</u> C <u>A</u> H	170-175
	Canola-fad3 (mutant)	<u>G</u> H K CGH	94-99
10	Canola-Fad3	<u>G</u> H <u>D</u> CGH	94-99
	Canola-FadD	<u>G</u> H <u>D</u> CGH	125-130

(FadD = Plastid delta 15, Fad3 = Microsomal delta-15),
 (FadC = Plastid delta-12, Fad2 = Microsomal delta-12)
 * One letter amino acid code; conservative substitutions
15 are underlined; non-conservative substitutions are in bold.

EXAMPLE 13

Transcription and Translation of Microsomal Delta-12 <u>Fatty Acid Desaturases</u>

Transcription in vivo was analyzed by RT-PCR analysis of stage II and stage III developing seeds and leaf tissue. The primers used to specifically amplify 12-DES F gene RNA from the indicated tissues were sense primer 5'-GGATATGATGATGGTGAAAGA-3' and antisense primer 5'-TCTTTCACCATCATCATATCC-3'. The primers used to specifically amplify 12-DES D gene RNA from the indicated tissues were sense primer 5'-GTTATGAAGCAAAGAAGAAC-3' and antisense primer 5'-GTTTCTTCTTTGCTTCATAAC-3'. The results indicated that mRNA of both the D and F gene was expressed in seed and leaf tissues of IMC 129, Q508 and wild type Westar plants.

- 59 -

In vitro transcription and translation analysis showed that a peptide of about 46 kD was made. This is the expected size of both the D gene product and the F gene product, based on sum of the deduced amino acid sequence of each gene and the cotranslational addition of a microsomal membrane peptide.

These results rule out the possibility that nonsense or frameshift mutations, resulting in a truncated
polypeptide gene product, are present in either the

10 mutant D gene or the mutant F gene. The data, in
conjunction with the data of Example 12, support the
conclusion that the mutations in Q508 and IMC 129 are in
delta-12 fatty acid desaturase structural genes encoding
desaturase enzymes, rather than in regulatory genes.

15

EXAMPLE 14

Development of Gene-Specific PCR Markers

Based on the single base change in the mutant D gene of IMC 129 described in above, two 5' PCR primers were designed. The nucleotide sequence of the primers 20 differed only in the base (G for Westar and A for IMC 129) at the 3' end. The primers allow one to distinguish between mutant fad2-D and wild-type Fad2-D alleles in a DNA-based PCR assay. Since there is only a single base difference in the 5' PCR primers, the PCR assay is very 25 sensitive to the PCR conditions such as annealing temperature, cycle number, amount, and purity of DNA templates used. Assay conditions have been established that distinguish between the mutant gene and the wild type gene using genomic DNA from IMC 129 and wild type 30 plants as templates. Conditions may be further optimized by varying PCR parameters, particularly with variable crude DNA samples. A PCR assay distinguishing the single base mutation in IMC 129 from the wild type gene along with fatty acid composition analysis provides a means to

- 60 -

simplify segregation and selection analysis of genetic crosses involving plants having a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase mutation.

5

EXAMPLE 15

Transformation with Mutant and Wild Type Fad3 Genes

B. napus cultivar Westar was transformed with mutant and wild type Fad3 genes to demonstrate that the mutant Fad3 gene for canola cytoplasmic linoleic desaturase 15-DES is nonfunctional. Transformation and regeneration were performed using disarmed Agrobacterium tumefaciens essentially following the procedure described in WO 94/11516.

Two disarmed Agrobacterium strains were engineered, each containing a Ti plasmid having the appropriate gene linked to a seed-specific promoter and a corresponding termination sequence. The first plasmid, pIMC110, was prepared by inserting into a disarmed Ti vector the full length wild type Fad3 gene in sense orientation (nucleotides 208 to 1336 of SEQ ID 6 in WO 93/11245), flanked by a napin promoter sequence positioned 5' to the Fad3 gene and a napin termination sequence positioned 3' to the Fad3 gene. The rapeseed napin promoter is described in EP 0255378.

The second plasmid, pIMC205, was prepared by

25 inserting a mutated Fad3 gene in sense orientation into a disarmed Ti vector. The mutant sequence contained mutations at nucleotides 411 and 413 of the microsomal Fad3 gene described in WO93/11245, thus changing the sequence for codon 96 from GAC to AAG. The amino acid at codon 96 of the gene product was thereby changed from aspartic acid to lysine. See Table XX. A bean (Phaseolus vulgaris) phaseolin (7S seed storage protein) promoter fragment of 495 base pairs, starting with 5'-TGGTCTTTTGGT-3', was placed 5' to the mutant Fad3 gene

35 and a phaseolin termination sequence was placed 3' to the

- 61 -

mutant Fad3 gene. The phaseolin sequence is described in Doyle et al., (1986) J. Biol. Chem. 261:9228-9238) and Slightom et al., (1983) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80:1897-1901.

The appropriate plasmids were engineered and transferred separately to Agrobacterium strain LBA4404. Each engineered strain was used to infect 5 mm segments of hypocotyl explants from Westar seeds by cocultivation. Infected hypocotyls were transferred to callus medium and, subsequently, to regeneration medium. Once discernable stems formed from the callus, shoots were excised and transferred to elongation medium. The elongated shoots were cut, dipped in RootoneTM, rooted on an agar medium and transplanted to potting soil to obtain fertile T1 plants. T2 seeds were obtained by selfing the resulting T1 plants.

Fatty acid analysis of T2 seeds was carried out as described above. The results are summarized in Table XXI. Of the 40 transformants obtained using the pIMC110 plasmid, 17 plants demonstrated wild type fatty acid profiles and 16 demonstrated overexpression. A proportion of the transformants are expected to display an overexpression phenotype when a functioning gene is transformed in sense orientation into plants.

25 Of the 307 transformed plants having the pIMC205 gene, none exhibited a fatty acid composition indicative of overexpression. This result indicates that the mutant fad3 gene product is non-functional, since some of the transformants would have exhibited an overexpression 30 phenotype if the gene product were functional.

- 62 -

Table XXI

5

15

20

Overexpression and Co-suppression Events in Westar Populations Transformed with pIMC205 or pIMC110.

Construct	Number of Transformants	α-Linolenic Acid Range(%)	Overexpression Events (>10% linolenic)	Co-Suppression Events (<4.0% linolenic)	Wild Type Events
pIMC110	40	2.4 - 20.6	16	7	17
pIMC205	307	4.6 - 10.4	0	0	307

Fatty acid compositions of representative transformed plants are presented in Table XXII. Lines 652-09 and 663-40 are representative of plants containing pIMC110 and exhibiting an overexpression and a cosuppression phenotype, respectively. Line 205-284 is representative of plants containing pIMC205 and having the mutant fad3 gene.

Table XXII

Fatty Acid Composition of T2 Seed

From Westar Transformed With pIMC205 or pIMC110.

Line Patty Acid Composition (%) C16:0 C18:0 C18:1 C18:2 C18:3 652-09 pIMC110 4.7 3.3 65.6 B.1 14.8 verexpression 663-40 pIMC110 4.9 2.1 62.5 23.2 co-suppression 205-284 pIMC205 3.7 1.8 68.8 15.9

To the extent not already indicated, it will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that any one of the various specific embodiments herein described and illustrated may be further modified to incorporate features shown in other of the specific embodiments.

The foregoing detailed description has been provided for a better understanding of the invention only and no unnecessary limitation should be understood therefrom as some modifications will be apparent to those

skilled in the art without deviating from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

- (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
 - (i) APPLICANT: Cargill, Incorporated
 - (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: PLANTS HAVING MUTANT SEQUENCES THAT CONFER ALTERED FATTY ACID PROFILES
 - (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 8
 - (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Fish & Richardson, P.C., P.A.
 - (B) STREET: 60 South Sixth Street, Suite 3300
 - (C) CITY: Minneapolis
 (D) STATE: MN

 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 55402
 - (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk

 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30
 - (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: PCT/US96/ (B) FILING DATE: 13-DEC-1996

 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
 - (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/572,027
 (B) FILING DATE: 14-DEC-1995
 (C) CLASSIFICATION:
 - (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:

 - (A) NAME: Ellinger, Mark S.
 (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 34,812
 (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 07148/049WO1
 - (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: 612/335-5070 (B) TELEFAX: 612/288-9696
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1155 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA
 - (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
 - (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
 - (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: Brassica napus
 - (ix) FEATURE:
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: Wild type D form.

(vi)	CECHENCE	DESCRIPTION:	SEO	TD NO	. 7 .
וראו	SECUENCE	DESCRIPTION:	SEU	טע עד	: 1 :

	GCA Ala									48
	GAC Asp									96
	GAA Glu 35									144
	CGC Arg									192
	TAC Tyr		_							240
	TAC Tyr									288
	GGC Gly									336
	TAC Tyr 115									384
	CTC Leu									432
	AAC Asn									480
	TCA Ser									528
	ACC Thr									576
	GCC Ala 195									624
	TTC Phe									672
	TAC Tyr									720
	TAC Tyr					Ser				768
	CCG Pro	Leu			Phe			Thr		816

TTG Leu	CAG Gln	CAC His 275	ACG Thr	CAT His	CCT Pro	TCC Ser	CTG Leu 280	CCT Pro	CAC His	TAC Tyr	GAT Asp	TCG Ser 285	TCC Ser	GAG Glu	TGG Trp		864
GAT Asp	TGG Trp 290	TTC Phe	AGG Arg	GGA Gly	GCT Ala	TTG Leu 295	GCT Ala	ACC Thr	GTT Val	GAC Asp	AGA Arg 300	GAC Asp	TAC Tyr	GGA Gly	ATC Ile		912
TTG Leu 305	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	GTC Val	Phe	CAC His 310	AAT Asn	ATT Ile	ACC Thr	GAC Asp	ACG Thr 315	CAC His	GTG Val	GCC Ala	CAT His	CAT His 320		960
CCG Pro	TTC Phe	TCC Ser	ACG Thr	ATG Met 325	CCG Pro	CAT His	TAT Tyr	CAC His	GCG Ala 330	ATG Met	GAA Glu	GCT Ala	ACC Thr	AAG Lys 335	GCG Ala		1008
ATA Ile	AAG Lys	CCG Pro	ATA Ile 340	CTG Leu	GGA Gly	GAG Glu	TAT Tyr	TAT Tyr 345	CAG Gln	TTC Phe	GAT Asp	GGG Gly	ACG Thr 350	CCG Pro	GTG Val		1056
GTT Val	AAG Lys	GCG Ala 355	ATG Met	TGG Trp	AGG Arg	GAG Glu	GCG Ala 360	AAG Lys	GAG Glu	TGT Cys	ATC Ile	TAT Tyr 365	GTG Val	GAA Glu	CCG Pro		1104
GAC Asp	AGG Arg 370	CAA Gln	GGT Gly	GAG Glu	AAG Lys	AAA Lys 375	GGT Gly	GTG Val	TTC Phe	Trp	TAC Tyr 380	AAC Asn	AAT Asn	AAG Lys	TTA Leu	T	1153
GA										•							1155

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Tro 20 Ile Lys Arg Val Pro 25 Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Ser Ile Pro 25 Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Ser Ile Pro 25 Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Pro Arg Ser Ile Pro 25 Cys Pro His Cys Pro Arg Ser Ile Pro 25 Cys Pro Arg Ser Ile Pro 25 Cys Pro Arg Ser Pro 25 Cys Pro Arg Ser Ile Pro 25 Cys Pro Arg Ser Pro 25 Cys Pro 25

- His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys 150 155 Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu 165 Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Arg 195 Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu 215 Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu Phe Arg Tyr Ala Ala Gly Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr 260 Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp 280 Asp Trp Phe Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His 315 Pro Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala 330 Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro Val 345 Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu 380
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1155 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA
 - (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
 - (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

 - (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE: (B) CLONE: IMC129

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

								<u>-</u>	10 11	0.3.							
ATG Met 1	GGT Gly	GCA Ala	GGT Gly	GGA Gly 5	AGA Arg	ATG Met	CAA Gln	GTG Val	TCT Ser 10	CCT Pro	CCC	TCC Ser	AAG Lys	AAG Lys 15	TCT Ser		8 4
GAA Glu	ACC	GAC Asp	ACC Thr 20	ATC Ile	AAG Lys	CGC Arg	GTA Val	CCC Pro 25	TGC Cys	GAG Glu	ACA Thr	CCG Pro	CCC Pro 30	TTC Phe	ACT Thr	9	96
GTC Val	GGA Gly	GAA Glu 35	CTC Leu	AAG Lys	AAA Lys	GCA Ala	ATC Ile 40	CCA Pro	CCG Pro	CAC His	TGT Cys	TTC Phe 45	AAA Lys	CGC Arg	TCG Ser	14	4
ATC Ile	CCT Pro 50	CGC Arg	TCT Ser	TTC Phe	TCC Ser	TAC Tyr 55	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	TGG Trp	GAC Asp	ATC Ile 60	ATC Ile	ATA Ile	GCC Ala	TCC Ser	19	2
TGC Cys 65	TTC Phe	TAC Tyr	TAC Tyr	NTC Xaa	GCC Ala 70	ACC Thr	ACT Thr	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	CCT Pro 75	CTC Leu	CTC Leu	CCT Pro	CAC His	CCT Pro 80	24	0
CTC Leu	TCC Ser	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	GCC Ala 85	TGG Trp	CCT Pro	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	TGG Trp 90	GCC Ala	TGC Cys	CAA Gln	GGG Gly	TGC Cys 95	GTC Val	28	8
CTA Leu	ACC Thr	GGC Gly	GTC Val 100	TGG Trp	GTC Val	ATA Ile	GCC Ala	CAC His 105	AAG Lys	TGC Cys	GGC Gly	CAC His	CAC His 110	GCC Ala	TTC Phe	33	6
AGC Ser	GAC Asp	TAC Tyr 115	CAG Gln	TGG Trp	CTT Leu	GAC Asp	GAC Asp 120	ACC Thr	GTC Val	GGT Gly	CTC Leu	ATC Ile 125	TTC Phe	CAC His	TCC Ser	38	4
TTC Phe	CTC Leu 130	CTC Leu	GTC Val	CCT Pro	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe 135	TCC Ser	TGG Trp	AAG Lys	TAC Tyr	AGT Ser 140	CAT His	CGC Arg	AGC Ser	CAC His	43	2
CAT His 145	TCC Ser	AAC Asn	ACT Thr	GGC Gly	TCC Ser 150	CTC Leu	GAG Glu	AGA Arg	GAC Asp	GAA Glu 155	GTG Val	TTT Phe	GTC Val	CCC Pro	AAG Lys 160	48	0
AAG Lys	AAG Lys	TCA Ser	GAC Asp	ATC Ile 165	AAG Lys	TGG Trp	TAC Tyr	GGC Gly	AAG Lys 170	TAC Tyr	CTC Leu	AAC Asn	AAC Asn	CCT Pro 175	TTG Leu	52	8
GGA Gly	CGC Arg	ACC Thr	GTG Val 180	ATG Met	TTA Leu	ACG Thr	GTT Val	CAG Gln 185	TTC Phe	ACT Thr	CTC Leu	GGC Gly	TGG Trp 190	CCG Pro	TTG Leu	570	6
TAC Tyr	TTA Leu	GCC Ala 195	TTC Phe	AAC Asn	GTC Val	TCG Ser	GGA Gly 200	AGA Arg	CCT Pro	TAC Tyr	GAC Asp	GGC Gly 205	GGC Gly	TTC Phe	CGT Arg	624	4
TGC Cys	CAT His 210	TTC Phe	CAC His	CCC Pro	AAC Asn	GCT Ala 215	CCC Pro	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr	AAC Asn	GAC Asp 220	CGC Arg	GAG Glu	CGT Arg	CTC Leu	672	2
CAG Gln 225	ATA Ile	TAC Tyr	ATC Ile	TCC Ser	GAC Asp 230	GCT Ala	GGC Gly	ATC Ile	CTC Leu	GCC Ala 235	GTC Val	TGC Cys	TAC Tyr	GGT Gly	CTC Leu 240	720	D
TTC Phe	CGT Arg	TAC Tyr	GCC Ala	GCC Ala 245	GGC Gly	CAG Gln	GGA Gly	GTG Val	GCC Ala 250	TCG Ser	ATG Met	GTC Val	TGC Cys	TTC Phe 255	TAC Tyr	768	В
GGA Gly	GTC Val	CCG Pro	CTT Leu 260	CTG Leu	ATT Ile	GTC Val	AAT Asn	GGT Gly 265	TTC Phe	CTC Leu	GTG Val	TTG Leu	ATC Ile 270	ACT Thr	TAC Tyr	816	5

										TAC Tyr							864
GAT Asp	TGG Trp 290	TTC Phe	AGG Arg	GGA Gly	GCT Ala	TTG Leu 295	GCT Ala	ACC Thr	GTT Val	GAC Asp	AGA Arg 300	GAC Asp	TAC Tyr	GGA Gly	ATC Ile		912
TTG Leu 305	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	GTC Val	TTC Phe	CAC His 310	AAT Asn	ATT Ile	ACC Thr	GAC Asp	ACG Thr 315	CAC His	GTG Val	GCC Ala	CAT His	CAT His 320		960
CCG Pro	TTC Phe	TCC Ser	ACG Thr	ATG Met 325	CCG Pro	CAT His	TAT Tyr	CAC His	GCG Ala 330	ATG Met	GAA Glu	GCT Ala	ACC Thr	AAG Lys 335	GCG Ala		1008
ATA Ile	AAG Lys	CCG Pro	ATA Ile 340	CTG Leu	GGA Gly	GAG Glu	TAT Tyr	TAT Tyr 345	CAG Gln	TTC Phe	GAT Asp	GGG Gly	ACG Thr 350	CCG Pro	GTG Val		1056
GTT Val	AAG Lys	GCG Ala 355	ATG Met	TGG Trp	AGG Arg	GAG Glu	GCG Ala 360	Lys	GAG Glu	TGT Cys	ATC Ile	TAT Tyr 365	GTG Val	GAA Glu	CCG Pro		1104
										TGG Trp						T	1153
GA														•			1155

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid

 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Thr Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser 55 Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Xaa Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Pro His Pro Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Lys Cys Gly His His Ala Phe 105 Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser 120 125 Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Ser His His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys 145 150 155 160

Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu 165 170

Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu 180 185 190

Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Arg 195 200 205

Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu 210 220

Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu 225 230 235 240

Phe Arg Tyr Ala Ala Gly Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr 245 250 255

Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr 260 265 270

Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp 275 280 285

Asp Trp Phe Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile 290 295 300

Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His 305 310 315 320

Pro Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala 325 330 335

Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro Val

Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro

Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu 370 380

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1155 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 - (A) ORGANISM: Brassica napus
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: Wild type F form.

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

ATG Met	GGT Gly	GCA Ala	GGT Gly	GGA Gly 5	AGA Arg	ATG Met	CAA Gln	GTG Val	TCT Ser 10	Pro	CCC Pro	TCC Ser	AAA Lys	AAG Lys 15	TCT Ser	. 41	В
GAA Glu	ACC Thr	GAC Asp	AAC Asn 20	ATC Ile	AAG Lys	CGC Arg	GTA Val	CCC Pro 25	TGC Cys	GAG Glu	ACA Thr	CCG Pro	CCC Pro 30	TTC Phe	ACT Thr	. 96	6
GTC Val	GGA Gly	GAA Glu 35	CTC Leu	AAG Lys	AAA Lys	GCA Ala	ATC Ile 40	CCA Pro	CCG Pro	CAC His	TGT Cys	TTC Phe 45	AAA Lys	CGC Arg	TCG Ser	144	4
ATC Ile	CCT Pro 50	CGC Arg	TCT Ser	TTC Phe	TCC Ser	TAC Tyr 55	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	TGG Trp	GAC Asp	ATC Ile 60	ATC Ile	ATA Ile	GCC Ala	TCC Ser	192	2
TGC Cys 65	TTC Phe	TAC Tyr	TAC	GTC Val	GCC Ala 70	ACC Thr	ACT Thr	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	CCT Pro 75	CTC Leu	CTC Leu	CCT Pro	CAC His	CCT Pro 80	240)
CTC Leu	TCC Ser	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	GCC Ala 85	TGG Trp	CCT Pro	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	TGG Trp 90	GCC Ala	TGC Cys	CAG Gln	GGC Gly	TGC Cys 95	GTC Val	288	3
CTA Leu	ACC Thr	GGC Gly	GTC Val 100	TGG Trp	GTC Val	ATA Ile	GCC Ala	CAC His 105	GAG Glu	TGC Cys	GGC Gly	CAC His	CAC His 110	GCC Ala	TTC Phe	336	5
AGC Ser	GAC Asp	TAC Tyr 115	CAG Gln	TGG Trp	CTG Leu	GAC Asp	GAC Asp 120	ACC Thr	GTC Val	GGC Gly	CTC Leu	ATC Ile 125	TTC Phe	CAC His	TCC Ser	384	1
TTC Phe	CTC Leu 130	CTC Leu	GTC Val	Pro	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe 135	TCC Ser	TGG Trp	AAG Lys	TAC Tyr	AGT Ser 140	CAT His	CGA Arg	CGC Arg	CAC His	432	2
CAT His 145	TCC Ser	AAC Asn	ACT Thr	GGC Gly	TCC Ser 150	CTC Leu	GAG Glu	AGA Arg	GAC Asp	GAA Glu 155	GTG Val	TTT Phe	GTC Val	CCC Pro	AAG Lys 160	480)
AAG Lys	AAG Lys	TCA Ser	GAC Asp	ATC Ile 165	AAG Lys	TGG Trp	TAC Tyr	GGC Gly	AAG Lys 170	TAC Tyr	CTC Leu	AAC Asn	AAC Asn	CCT Pro 175	TTG Leu	528	3
GGA Gly	CGC Arg	ACC Thr	GTG Val 180	ATG Met	TTA Leu	ACG Thr	GTT Val	CAG Gln 185	TTC Phe	ACT Thr	CTC Leu	GGC Gly	TGG Trp 190	CCT Pro	TTG Leu	57€	5
TAC	TTA Leu	GCC Ala 195	TTC Phe	AAC Asn	GTC Val	TCG Ser	GGG Gly 200	AGA Arg	CCT Pro	TAC Tyr	GAC Asp	GGC Gly 205	GGC Gly	TTC Phe	GCT Ala	624	1
TGC Cys	CAT His 210	TTC Phe	CAC His	CCC Pro	AAC Asn	GCT Ala 215	CCC Pro	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr	AAC Asn	GAC Asp 220	CGC Arg	GAG Glu	CGT Arg	CTC Leu	672	2
CAG Gln 225	ATA Ile	TAC Tyr	ATC Ile	TCC Ser	GAC Asp 230	GCT Ala	GGC Gly	ATC Ile	CTC Leu	GCC Ala 235	GTC Val	TGC Cys	TAC Tyr	GGT Gly	CTC Leu 240	720)
TAC Tyr	CGC Arg	TAC Tyr	GCT Ala	GCT Ala 245	GTC Val	CAA Gln	GGA Gly	GTT Val	GCC Ala 250	TCG Ser	ATG Met	GTC Val	TGC Cys	TTC Phe 255	TAC Tyr	768	3
GGA Gly	GTT Val	CCG Pro	CTT Leu 260	CTG Leu	ATT Ile	GTC Val	AAT Asn	GGG Gly 265	TTC Phe	TTA Leu	GTT Val	TTG Leu	ATC Ile 270	ACT Thr	TAC Tyr	816	5

TTG Leu	CAG Gln	CAC His 275	ACG Thr	CAT His	CCT Pro	TCC Ser	CTG Leu 280	CCT Pro	CAC His	TAT Tyr	GAC Asp	TCG Ser 285	TCT Ser	GAG Glu	TGG Trp		864
GAT Asp	TGG Trp 290	TTG Leu	AGG Arg	GGA Gly	GCT Ala	TTG Leu 295	GCC Ala	ACC Thr	GTT Val	GAC Asp	AGA Arg 300	GAC Asp	TAC Tyr	GGA Gly	ATC Ile		912
TTG Leu 305	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	GTC Val	TTC Phe	CAC His 310	AAT Asn	ATC Ile	ACG Thr	GAC Asp	ACG Thr 315	CAC His	GTG Val	GCG Ala	CAT His	CAC His 320		960
CTG Leu	TTC Phe	TCG Ser	ACC Thr	ATG Met 325	CCG Pro	CAT His	TAT Tyr	CAT His	GCG Ala 330	ATG Met	GAA Glu	GCT Ala	ACG Thr	AAG Lys 335	GCG Ala		1008
ATA Ile	AAG Lys	CCG Pro	ATA Ile 340	CTG Leu	GGA Gly	GAG Glu	TAT Tyr	TAT Tyr 345	CAG Gln	TTG Leu	CAT His	GGG Gly	ACG Thr 350	CCG Pro	GTG Val		1056
GTT Val	AAG Lys	GCG Ala 355	ATG Met	TGG Trp	AGG Arg	Glu	GCG Ala 360	AAG Lys	GAG Glu	TGT Cys	ATC Ile	TAT Tyr 365	GTG Val	GAA Glu	CCG Pro		1104
GAC Asp	AGG Arg 370	CAA Gln	GGT Gly	GAG Glu	AAG Lys	AAA Lys 375	GGT Gly	GTG Val	TTC Phe	TGG Trp	TAC Tyr 380	AAC Asn	AAT Asn	AAG Lys	TTA Leu	T	1153
GA																	1155

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid(D) TOPOLOGY: 'linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Asn Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser
50 60 Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro His Pro Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser 120 Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys Lys Lys Ser Asp Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu 170 Gly Arg Thr Val Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Ala Cys His Phe His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu 215 Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu 235 Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Ala Val Gln Gly Val Ala Ser Met Val Cys Phe Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Tyr 265 Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp Leu Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His 315 Leu Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Leu His Gly Thr Pro Val Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro 355 Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1155 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
 (A) ORGANISM: Brassica napus
- (vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE: (B) CLONE: Q508
- (ix) FEATURE:
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION: T to A transversion mutation at nucleotide 515 of the F form.

- 74 -

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

	(XI	, SE	QUEN	ICE L	ESCR	IPTI	ON:	SEQ	ID N	0:7:						
ATG Met 1	Gry	GCA Ala	GGT Gly	GGA Gly 5	AGA Arg	ATG Met	CAA Gln	GTG Val	TCT Ser 10	Pro	CCC	TCC Ser	AAA Lys	AAG Lys 15	TCT	4.8
GAA Glu	ACC Thr	GAC Asp	AAC Asn 20	116	AAG Lys	CGC	GTA Val	CCC Pro 25	Cys	GAG Glu	ACA Thr	CCG Pro	CCC Pro 30	TTC Phe	ACT Thr	96
GTC Val	GGA Gly	GAA Glu 35	CTC Leu	AAG Lys	. AAA Lys	GCA Ala	ATC Ile 40	CCA Pro	CCG Pro	CAC His	TGT Cys	TTC Phe 45	AAA Lys	CGC Arg	TCG Ser	144
110	50	ALG	361	FIIC	Set	TAC Tyr 55	Leu	11e	Trp	Asp	Ile 60	Ile	Ile	Ala	Ser	192
TGC Cys 65	TTC Phe	TAC Tyr	TAC Tyr	GTC Val	GCC Ala 70	ACC Thr	ACT Thr	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	CCT Pro 75	CTC Leu	CTC Leu	CCT Pro	CAC His	CCT Pro 80	240
CTC Leu	TCC Ser	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe	GCC Ala 85	TGG Trp	CCT Pro	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	TGG Trp 90	GCC Ala	TGC Cys	CAG Gln	GGC Gly	TGC Cys 95	GTC Val	288
Dea	****	Gly	100	11p	Val	ATA Ile	Ala	105	Glu	Çys	Gly	His	His 110	Ala	Phe	336
501	Yab	115	GIII	TIP	Leu	GAC Asp	120	Thr	Val	Gly	Leu	11e 125	Phe	His	Ser	384
TTC Phe	CTC Leu 130	CTC Leu	GTC Val	CCT	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe 135	TCC Ser	TGG Trp	AAG Lys	TAC Tyr	AGT Ser 140	CAT His	CGA Arg	CGC Arg	CAC His	432
145	361	VSII	1111	GIY	150	CTC Leu	GIu	Arg	Asp	Glu 155	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	Lys 160	480
AAG Lys	AAG Lys	TCA Ser	GAC Asp	ATC Ile 165	AAG Lys	TGG Trp	TAC Tyr	GGC Gly	AAG Lys 170	TAC Tyr	CAC His	AAC Asn	AAC Asn	CCT Pro 175	TTG Leu	528
GGA Gly	CGC Arg	ACC Thr	GTG Val 180	ATG Met	TTA Leu	ACG Thr	GTT Val	CAG Gln 185	TTC Phe	ACT Thr	CTC Leu	GGC Gly	TGG Trp 190	CCT Pro	TTG Leu	576
- 7 -	Dea	195	Pne	ASII	vai	TCG Ser	200	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Gly 205	Gly	Phe	Ala	624
- 7 5	CAT His 210	TTC Phe	CAC His	CCC Pro	AAC Asn	GCT Ala 215	CCC Pro	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr	AAC Asn	GAC Asp 220	CGC Arg	GAG Glu	CGT Arg	CTC Leu	672
CAG Gln 225	ATA Ile	TAC Tyr	ATC Ile	TCC Ser	GAC Asp 230	GCT Ala	GGC Gly	ATC Ile	CTC Leu	GCC Ala 235	GTC Val	TGC Cys	TAC Tyr	GGT Gly	CTC Leu 240	720
TAC Tyr	CGC Arg	TAC Tyr	GCT Ala	GCT Ala 245	GTC Val	CAA Gln	GGA Gly	GTT Val	GCC Ala 250	TCG Ser	ATG Met	GTC Val	TGC Cys	TTC Phe 255	TAC Tyr	768
GGA Gly	GTT Val	CCG Pro	CTT Leu 260	CTG Leu	ATT Ile	GTC Val	AAT Asn	GGG Gly 265	TTC Phe	TTA Leu	GTT Val	TTG Leu	ATC Ile 270	ACT Thr	TAC Tyr	816

TTG Leu	CAG Gln	CAC His 275	ACG Thr	CAT His	CCT Pro	TCC Ser	CTG Leu 280	CCT Pro	CAC His	TAT Tyr	GAC Asp	TCG Ser 285	TCT Ser	GAG Glu	TGG Trp		864
GAT Asp	TGG Trp 290	TTG Leu	AGG Arg	GGA Gly	GCT Ala	TTG Leu 295	GCC Ala	ACC Thr	GTT Val	GAÇ Asp	AGA Arg 300	GAC Asp	TAC Tyr	GGA Gly	ATC Ile		912
TTG Leu 305	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	GTC Val	TTC Phe	CAC His 310	AAT Asn	ATC Ile	ACG Thr	GAC Asp	ACG Thr 315	CAC His	GTG Val	GCG Ala	CAT His	CAC His 320		960
CTG Leu	TTC Phe	TCG Ser	ACC Thr	ATG Met 325	Pro	CAT His	TAT	CAT His	GCG Ala 330	ATG Met	GAA Glu	GCT Ala	ACG Thr	AAG Lys 335	GCG Ala		1008
ATA Ile	AAG Lys	CCG Pro	ATA Ile 340	CTG Leu	GGA Gly	GAG Glu	TAT Tyr	TAT Tyr 345	CAG Gln	TTG- Leu	CAT His	GGG Gly	ACG Thr 350	CCG Pro	GTG Val		1056
GTT Val	AAG Lys	GCG Ala 355	ATG Met	TGG Trp	AGG Arg	GAG Glu	GCG Ala 360	Lys	GAG Glu	TGT Cys	ATC Ile	TAT Tyr 365	GTG Val	GAA Glu	CCG Pro		1104
GAC Asp	AGG Arg 370	CAA Gln	GGT Gly	GAG Glu	AAG Lys	AAA Lys 375	GGT Gly	GTG Val	TTC Phe	TGG Trp	TAC Tyr 380	AAC Asn	AAT Asn	AAG Lys	TTA Leu	Т	1153
GA																	1155

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids(B) TYPE: amino acid

 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Asn Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro Phe Thr Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile Ile Ile Ala Ser 50 55 60 Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro His Pro Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe 105 Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His

His 145	Ser	Asn	Thr	Gly	Ser 150	Leu	Glu	Arg	Asp	Glu 155	Val	Phe	Val	Pro	Lys 160
Lys	Lys	Ser	Asp	Ile 165	Lys	Trp	Tyr	Gly	Lys 170	Tyr	His	Asn	Asn	Pro 175	Leu
Gly	Arg	Thr	Val 180	Met	Leu	Thr	Val	Gln 185	Phe	Thr	Leu	Gly	Trp 190	Pro	Leu
Tyr	Leu	Ala 195	Phe	Asn	Val	Ser	Gly 200	Arg	Pro	Tyr	Asp	Gly 205	Gly	Phe	Ala
Cys	His 210	Phe	His	Pro	Asn	Ala 215	Pro	Ile	Tyr	Asn	Asp 220	Arg	Glu	Arg	Leu
Gln 225	Ile	Tyr	Ile	Ser	Asp 230	Ala	Gly	Ile	Leu	Ala 235	Val	Cys	Tyr	Gly	Leu 240
Tyr	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Ala 245	Val	Gln	Gly	Val	Ala 250	Ser	Met	Val	Cys	Phe 255	Tyr
Gly	Val	Pro	Leu 260	Leu	Ile	Val	Asn	Gly 265	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile 270	Thr	Tyr
Leu	Gln	His 275	Thr	His	Pro	Ser	Leu 280	Pro	His	Tyr	Asp	Ser 285	Ser	Glu	Trp
Asp	Trp 290	Leu	Arg	Gly	Ala	Leu 295	Ala	Thr	Val	Așp	Arg 300	Asp	Tyr	Gly	Ile
Leu 305	Asn	Lys	Val	Phe	His 310	Asn	Ile	Thr	Asp	Thr 315	His	Val	Ala	His	His 320
Leu	Phe	Ser	Thr	Met 325	Pro	His	Tyr	His	Ala 330	Met	Glu	Ala	Thr	Lys 335	Ala
Ile	Lys	Pro	Ile 340	Leu	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Tyr 345	Gln	Leu	His	Gly	Thr 350	Pro	Val
Val	Lys	Ala 355	Met	Trp	Arg	Glu	Ala 360	Lys	Glu	Cys	Ile	Tyr 365	Val	Glu	Pro
Asp	Arg 370	Gln	Gly	Glu	Lys	Lys 375	Gly	Val	Phe	Trp	Tyr 380	Asn	Asn	Lys	Leu

- 77 -

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- An isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a Brassicaceae or Helianthus delta-12 fatty acid desaturase
 gene having at least one mutation, wherein said gene is effective for altering fatty acid composition in Brassicaceae or Helianthus seeds and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.
- The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said
 sequence comprises a full-length coding sequence of said gene.
 - 3. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said mutant desaturase gene encodes a microsomal gene product:
- 4. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said 15 at least one mutation comprises a mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.
- 5. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 4, wherein said at least one mutation comprises a non-conservative amino 20 acid substitution in said region.
 - 6. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 5, wherein said at least one mutation comprises the sequence His-Lys-Cys-Gly-His.
- 7. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said 25 mutant desaturase gene is from a *Brassica napus* plant.
 - 8. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said gene is the D form of a *Brassicaceae* microsomal gene.

- 78 -

9. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 1, wherein said at least at least one mutation comprises the sequence Lys-Tyr-His-Asn-Asn-Pro.

- 10. A plant of the Brassicaceae or Helianthus families
 5 other than Brassica napus, said plant containing a
 sequence of at least 10 nucleotides from a delta-12 fatty
 acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said
 at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-XaaXaa-His amino acid motif and wherein said mutation
 10 confers an altered fatty acid composition in seeds of
 said plant.
 - 11. The plant of claim 10, wherein said plant contains a full-length coding sequence of said mutant gene.
- 12. The plant of claim 10, wherein said motif comprises the sequence His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His.
 - 13. The plant of claim 10, wherein said gene is from a Brassica napus plant.
 - 14. The plant of claim 10, wherein said plant is a Brassica rapa plant.
- 20 15. An isolated nucleic acid fragment comprising a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a Brassicaceae or Helianthus delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, wherein said gene is effective for altering fatty acid composition in
- 25 Brassicaceae or Helianthus seeds and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.

- 16. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 15, wherein said sequence comprises a full-length coding sequence of said gene.
- 17. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 15, wherein said at least one mutation comprises a mutation in a region of said desaturase gene encoding a His-Asp-Cys-Gly-His amino acid motif.
- 18. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 15, wherein said mutant desaturase gene is from a *Brassica napus* 10 plant.
 - 19. A Brassicaceae or Helianthus plant containing a sequence of at least 10 nucleotides from a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-
- 15 Xaa-His amino acid motif and wherein said mutation confers an altered fatty acid composition in seeds of said plant.
 - 20. The plant of claim 19, wherein said plant contains a full-length coding sequence of said mutant gene.
- 20 21. The plant of claim 19, wherein said motif comprises the sequence His-Asp-Cys-Gly-His.
 - 22. The plant of claim 19, wherein said mutant desaturase gene is from a *Brassica napus* plant.
- 23. The plant of claim 19, wherein said plant is a 25 Brassica napus plant.
 - 24. A Brassicaceae or Helianthus plant containing:

- 80 -

5

10

- a) a sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one delta-12 gene mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif;
- b) a sequence of at least 10 nucleotides from a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one delta-15 gene mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif, said delta-12 gene mutation and said delta-15 gene mutation conferring an altered fatty acid composition in
- 25. A Brassicaceae or Helianthus plant containing a

 15 sequence of at least about 10 nucleotides from a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a TyrLeu-Asn-Asn-Pro amino acid motif and wherein said mutation confers an altered fatty acid composition in

 20 seeds of said plant.

seeds of said plant.

- 26. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by the plant of claim 10.
- 27. The oil of claim 26, wherein said oil has, following crushing and extraction of said seeds, from25 about 1% to about 10% linoleic acid based on total fatty acid composition.
 - 28. The oil of claim 26, wherein said oil has from about 69% to about 90% oleic acid based on total fatty acid composition.

- 81 -

29. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by the plant of claim 19.

- 30. The oil of claim 29, wherein said oil has, following crushing and extraction of said seeds, from about 0.5% to about 10% α -linolenic acid based on total fatty acid composition.
 - 31. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by the plant of claim 24.
- 32. A vegetable oil extracted from seeds produced by 10 the plant of claim 25.
 - 33. A method for producing a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* plant line, comprising the steps of:
 - a) inducing mutagenesis in cells of a starting variety of a Brassicaceae or Helianthus species;
- b) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said cells;

20

25

- c) identifying at least one of said progeny plant that contains a delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif; and
- d) producing said plant line from said at least one progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said plant line having said at least one delta-12 gene mutation.
- 34. The method of claim 33, wherein said plant line produces seeds yielding an oil having a stabilized linoleic acid content from about 1% to about 14%.

- 82 - '

35. The method of claim 33, further comprising the steps of:

- e) inducing mutagenesis in cells of said plant line;
- f) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said plant line cells;

10

- g) identifying at least one of said plant line progeny plants that contains a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one delta-15 gene mutation, said at least one delta-15 gene mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif;
- h) producing a second plant line from said at least one plant line progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said second plant line having said at least one delta-12 gene mutation and said at least one delta-15 gene mutation.
 - 36. The method of claim 33, wherein said starting variety is a *Brassica napus* variety.
- 20 37. The method of claim 36, wherein said mutation is in a first form of delta-12 fatty acid desaturase.
- 38. The method of claim 37, further comprising the step of crossing a plant of said plant line to a plant having a mutation in a second form of delta-12 fatty acid desaturase.
 - 39. The method of claim 38, wherein said second mutation is in a region other than a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif.
- 40. The method of claim 36, further comprising the 30 steps of:

PCT/US96/20090

5

10

15

25

- e) inducing mutagenesis in cells of said plant line;
- f) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said plant line cells;
- g) identifying at least one of said plant line progeny plants that contains a second delta-12 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said second gene mutation in a region other than a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif; and
 - h) producing a second plant line from said at least one plant line progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said second plant line having said first delta-12 gene mutation and said second delta-12 gene mutation.
- 41. A method for producing a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* plant line, comprising the steps of:
 - a) inducing mutagenesis in cells of a starting variety of a *Brassicaceae* or *Helianthus* species;
- 20 b) obtaining one or more progeny plants from said cells;
 - c) identifying at least one of said progeny plants that contains a delta-15 fatty acid desaturase gene having at least one mutation, said at least one mutation in a region encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif; and
 - d) producing said plant line from said at least one progeny plant by self- or cross-pollination, said plant line having said delta-15 gene

30 mutation.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/20090

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(6) :A01H 1/06, 5/10, 1/00; C12N 15/00; C07C 57/02	57/03 53/126								
US CL: Please See Extra Sheet.	, 57705, 55.126								
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC									
B. FIELDS SEARCHED									
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed	d by classification symbols)								
U.S.: 800/230, 200, 205, 255, DIG. 17, DIG 69; 435/172.1, 172.3; 47/58, DIG. 1; 554/8, 9, 223, 224; 426/601, 615, 629									
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched									
	and of data have and subsequentiable								
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Please See Extra Sheet.									
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT									
Category* Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.							
Y ROBBELEN. Genetical and Phys Mutants for Polyenoic Fatty Ac napus L. Z. Pflazenzuchtg. 1979 especially page 94.		10-14 and 19- 41							
	WO 91/15578 A1 (PIONEER HI-BRED INTERNATIONAL, INC.) 17 October 1991, pages 1-56, especially pages 8-40.								
	US 5,434,283 A (WONG et al.) 18 June 1995, columns 1- 20, especially column 4, line 50 to column 19, line 8.								
Y EP O 323 753 A1 (ALLELIX INC.) especially pages 7-10.	12 July 1989, pages 2-12,	10-41							
	×								
X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box	C. See patent family annex.								
 Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance. 	"T" Inter document published after the inte date and not in conflict with the applic principle or theory underlying the inv	ation but cited to understand the							
E cartier document published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be considered.	ne claimed invention cannot be ered to involve an inventive step							
L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other									
special reason (as specified) To document of particular resevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art									
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than *&* document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed									
Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report									
20 MARCH 1997 0 8 MAY 1997									
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Authorized officer Two									
Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	GARY BENZION	, -							
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-0196								

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No..
PCT/US96/20090

•		FC170390/2009	
C (Continua	tion). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevan	nt passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	TOPFER et al. Modification of Plant Lipid Synthesis. SCIENCE, Vol. 268, 05 May 1995, pages 681-686.		1-9, 10-14, 19-25 and 33-41
Y	SCARTH et al. STELLAR LOW LINOLENIC -HIGH I ACID SUMMER RAPE. Can. J. Plant Sci. Apr. 1988, pages 509-511.		10-14, 19-25 and 26-32
$\mathbf{Y} \stackrel{\setminus}{=} $	US 4,948,811 A (SPINNER et al.) 14 August 1990, co	olumns 1-8.	26-32
Y	US 5,387,758 A (WONG et al.) 07 February 1995, column especially column 11, line 25 to column 24, line 26.	umns 2-24,	10-41
Y	WO 93/12245 A1 (E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AN COMPANY) 10 June 1993, pages 1-163, especially pag 85.	D es 25 to	1-41
		٠.	
		·	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/20090

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: US CL :	
800/230, 200, 205, 255, DIG. 17, DIG 69; 435/172.1, 172.3; 47/58, DIG. 1; 554/	(8, 9, 223, 224; 426/601, 615, 629
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms use	व्य):
APS, BIOSIS, DIALOG. search terms: nucleic acid, delta 12 fatty acid desaturase, delta 9 fatty acid desatura Helianthus, mutatgenesis, mutation breeding, linoleic, oleic, alpha linolenic.	use, Brassica napus, Brassicaceae,
·	